BASTARD OUT OF THE CLOSET: INTERVIEW WITH DOROTHY ALLISON

ON OUR BACKS

ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE ADVENTUROUS LESBIAN

JULY/AUGUST 1993 $5.95

Annie Sprinkle's

Herma & Bergit

Girls Who Wear Glasses

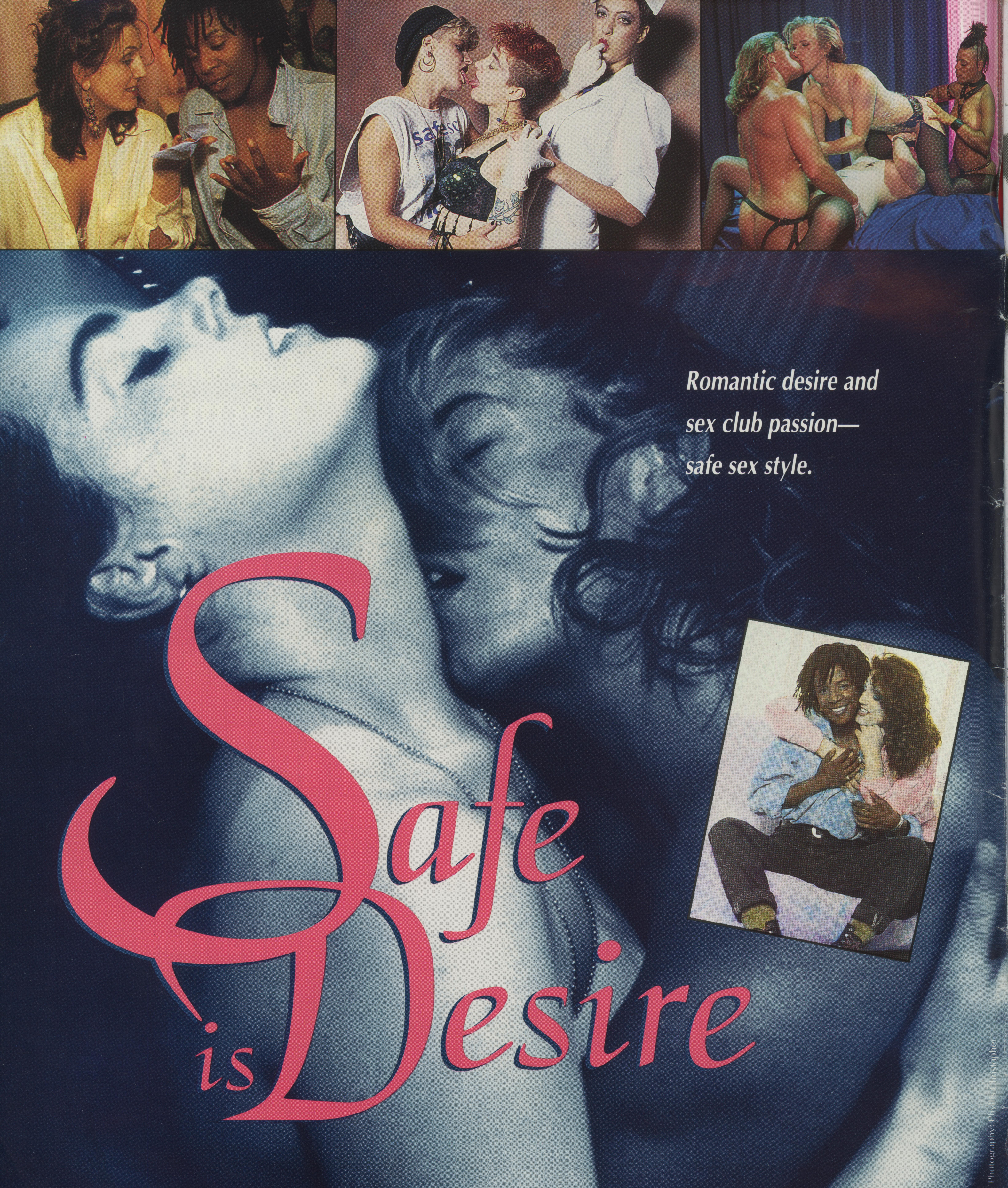
Plus:

- French Dyke Speak
- Nonmonogamy
- Lesbian Films
- First Times

A Midsummer Dyke's Dream

PER
ON
OUR V9N6

LIBRARY FOR SEX-POSITIVE CULTURE
T 0009665


Romantic desire and sex club passion—safe sex style.
Safe is Desire
Photography: Phyllis Christopher

FATALE VIDEO **1.800.845.4617** VISA MC $39.95 Retail

Or send check or MO for $39.95 plus $4 shipping (CA residents add 8.5% tax) to: Blush Entertainment 526 Castro Street, San Francisco, CA 94114

PHOTO: MYRA FOURWINDS

FATALE VIDEO

526 Castro Street San Francisco CA 94114

Authentic Lesbian Videos

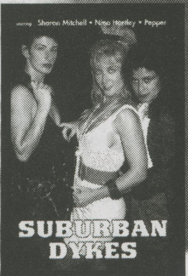
For Catalog: Send S.A.S.E. or call Toll Free 1.800.845.4617. To order send Check or Money Order. Add $3.00 per tape for shipping and handling. CA residents add 8.5% sales tax. Allow 3 to 4 weeks delivery. Sorry, no refunds.

Any Five Titles $125

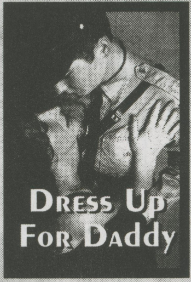
HOW TO FEMALE EJACULATE
Fanny fatale

HOW TO FEMALE EJACULATE This exciting video by sex professional Fanny Fatale teaches you how to awaken your ability to ejaculate. Discover what kinds of orgasms and which muscles enhance the G-Spot's role in female ejaculation. Learn why this long ignored art is good for you—and why not ejaculating can be unhealthy. Watch Fanny and three other women demonstrate astonishing ejaculations. This informative gem in the field of women's sexuality is a liberating experience not to be missed. **$34.95**

CLIPS Greta stars in the first of three vignettes in a computer-enhanced version of self-love indulgence. The second vignette features safe sex play and bondage with scarves between a free-spirited couple. In the last vignette, Fanny Fatale gets the attention of her Wall Street reading yuppie butch spouse, played by Kenni Mann, when she masturbates in front of the TV to a screaming G-spot ejaculation. Kenni finally puts her beer down and lets her dyke-cock out for a wild rise. **$34.95**



SUBURBAN DYKES Pepper and Nina Hartley star as a suburban couple who discover the fun of using sexual services and add some playfulness to their sex life. First they call a phone sex service and masturbate to a scintillating fantasy by Mistress Marlayna and learn something new about each other's desire. Pleased and excited with the success from that adventure, they hire a butch from a lesbian escort service. Enter Sharon Mitchell who will make dyke hearts palpitate as she takes control of satisfying both women in a raw threesome orgy. **$34.95**



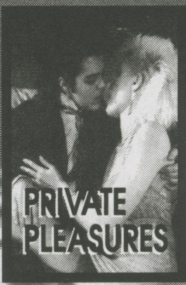
DRESS UP FOR DADDY These real-life lesbian lovers enact the forbidden "Daddy" fantasy. They use dress up and role play to express their sexual feelings for each other. The action is realistic, romantic, and bursting with sexual energy. This video captures two truly gifted sexual beings enjoying what comes so naturally to them. Their luscious sensuality will leave you dripping. **$29.95**

Hungry Hearts

HUNGRY HEARTS Pepper and Reeva star as a newly-in-love couple who escape to an ocean beach retreat for a weekend of blissful sex and love. Reeva, a voluptuous blonde goddess, seduces her sensual Latina lover with a sultry erotic dance. Pepper, overcome with deep love and desire, orchestrates a beautiful and unusual bondage scene in the Japanese hot tub. A day of ardent loving culminates in a passionate scene by the fireplace. Reeva straps on her dildo and harness and gives Pepper a taste of her own fire. **$34.95**

Bathroom Sluts

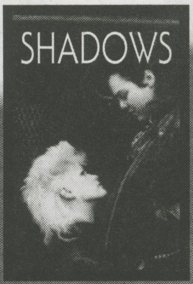
BATHROOM SLUTS features a group of five lesbians who engage in group sex, bondage, shaving, various forms of penetration and a rare glimpse of a dominant butch getting off without giving up her control. They play hard and safe. In an interview at the end, the women discuss their motives and feelings about doing the video. **$29.95**



PRIVATE PLEASURES Few couples are as knock-out, drop-dead gorgeous as handsome, brunette Terri and blonde, femme bombshell Coerage. Even fewer couples know each other so completely, desire each other so thoroughly and are so sexually comfortable. In a ritzy penthouse apartment they dress up for each other's pleasure, then pop the champagne, lick off the whipped cream and end up down on the floor in a fucking scene that will astonish you. **$34.95**

BurLEZk
Live

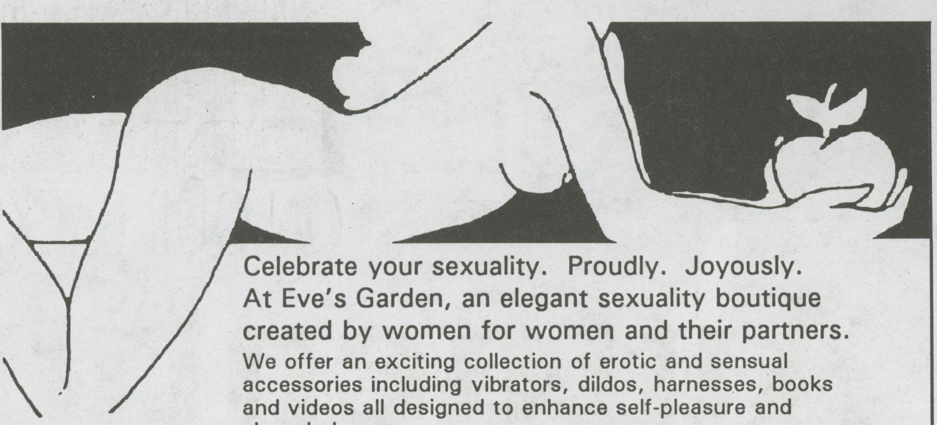
BurLEZk Live! The first and longest running women-only striptease show in the country! Every week for three years at a lesbian bar in San Francisco, over 100 erotic performance artists danced into the hearts and clits of more than 20,000 women. *Fatale* has captured some of the exciting moments from this memorable event, live on two video cassettes; **BurLEZk Live!** and **BurLEZk Live 2.** **$24.95**



SHADOWS Terri and Coerage appear again as a lesbian couple who let us in on their leather scene. After a motorcycle ride, femme Coerage leads butch Terri down to a basement resplendent in restraining paraphernalia. Hours of sucking, fucking, whipping, riding, and performing end in a blow out orgasm in a sling. **$34.95**

LESBIAN STRIPTEASE
BurLEZk II
Live!
SHELLY MARS

BurLEZk Live 2 More exciting moments live from the lesbian striptease show, BurLEZk. Tiger performs traditional burlesque while campy Stella sings to her dildo and Fanny Fatale does a safe sex dance. Pepper and Reeva from *Hungry Hearrts* do their love act and Shelly Mars performs as Martin, an act which landed her a part in the German cult classic, *The Virgin Machine.* **$24.95**



Celebrate your sexuality. Proudly. Joyously. At Eve's Garden, an elegant sexuality boutique created by women for women and their partners.

We offer an exciting collection of erotic and sensual accessories including vibrators, dildos, harnesses, books and videos all designed to enhance self-pleasure and shared-pleasure.

Send $3.00 for our catalog, or visit, with this ad, for a free copy. We are open Mon. thru Sat. 12:00 - 6:30 P.M.

eve's garden
We grow pleasurable things for women

119 West 57th Street, Ste. 420,
Dept OOB, New York, NY 10019
Telephone (212) 757-8651

SCORPIO EROTIC TOYS
sabi: elegant simplicity, striving for something closer to nature than nature itself

US STORES

Come Again
212 308-9394

Eve's Garden
800 848-3837

Good Vibrations
415 550-7399

It's My Pleasure
503 236-0505

Leather Masters
408 293-7660

Loveseason
206 775-4502

Majik Moments
202 529-1469

Romantasy
415 673-3137

Voyages
916 441-5514

Ask your favorite Woman's Store to stock our Jupiter and Adam units.

For wholesale info
write to: G.B.D.
SCORPIO PRODUCTS
117 W. Harrison Bldg.
6th Floor, Suite D-313
Chicago, IL 60605

JUPITER I & II
ADAM I & II
by SCORPIO

ON OUR BACKS

526 Castro • San Francisco, CA 94114 • 415.861.4723

PUBLISHER/EDITOR	Debra Sundahl
ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER	Nan Kinney
ASSISTANT EDITOR	Shar Rednour
ART DIRECTOR	Robin Simmons
PHOTO EDITOR	Phyllis Christopher
PASTE-UP	Tim Hixon
CIRCULATION MANAGER	Andrea M. Coble
PUBLICIST	Melissa Murphy
BOOKKEEPER	Dana Spake
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	Amanda J. Tear
ADVERTISING ACCT. EXEC.	Marnie De Bois
ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE	Meredith M. Tanzer

EAST COAST SALES REPRESENTATIVE
Marge Barton 212-666-6992

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Gina Dellatte, Risa Denenberg, Linnea Due, Mimi=Freed, Judith Halberstam, Diviana Ingravallo, k.c. minns, Gentry Lane, Carol Queen, Stephanie Rosenbaum, Mindy Spatt, Wickie Stamps, Holly Willis

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS
Treyce Cilona, Della Grace, Laurence, Tracy Mostovoy, Neda, Cathy Lee Prochazka, Annie Sprinkle

ON OUR BACKS (ISSN 08902224) is published bi-monthly by Blush Entertainment Corp., 526 Castro, San Francisco, CA 94114. Subscriptions are $34.95/yr USA; $42.95/yr Canada (first-class only); $59.95/yr outside USA (airmail only). Second-class postage paid at San Francisco, CA. and additional mailing office. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to ON OUR BACKS, 526 Castro, San Francisco, CA 94114.

ADVERTISING: Rate sheet and production assistance available on request. For assistance call: 415-861-4723.

RETAIL OUTLETS: Terms are 25% discount, freight pre-paid. Payment for sold copies is due 45 days after you receive the magazine. Credit will be given for ten or more full copies received in our office within 90 days of publication date. Mastheads will not be accepted. Minimum order ten copies. Call 415-861-4723 or Send order to: 526 Castro, San Francisco, CA 94114.

SUBMISSIONS: Photographers' and writers' guidelines available upon request with SASE. We are not responsible for unsolicited materials sent without SASE. Allow 6–8 weeks for response.

Any similarity between characters appearing in ON OUR BACKS and real persons is coincidental. The representation or appearance of any person in ON OUR BACKS is not to be taken as representative of her sexual preference.

Copyright © 1993 by Blush Entertainment Corp. All rights reserved. No part of this magazine may be reproduced without prior written permission from the publisher. Printed in USA.

INSIDE

ON OUR BACKS
Vol.9 No.6 July/August 1993

columns

4 OUR CONTRIBUTORS

5 LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Wedding at the March on Washington

6 WHERE THE GIRLS ARE
On Our Backs' new travel guide to help you plan your summer.

8 ASK FANNY . . . Fanny Fatale
Non-monogamy / Butches with Dildos

10 QUEER CULTURE . . . Judith Halberstam
This year's San Francciscco Lesbian and Gay Film Festival proves once and for all that lesbians do have a sense of humor.

12 CENSORSHIP UPDATE . . . Marcy Sheiner

13 NEWS NOTES . . . Stephanie Rosenbaum

15 SEXPOINT . . . Erin Blackwell
French Sex and How To Get It...More useful than anything you'll learn from Berlitz.

38 REVIEWS
Books on Homophobia / Written On The Body
Some of My Best Friends Are Naked / Girls Lean Back Everywhere

46 Sapphone
THIS COUNTRY'S HOTTEST LESBIAN PERSONAL ADS

Interview with Dorothy Allison on page 22

features & fiction

17 A MIDSUMMER'S DREAM . . . Story by Robbi Sommers
You never know what will grab you when you fall asleep in the woods.

22 INTERVIEW WITH DOROTHY ALLISON
By Melissa Murphy
*The pioneering lesbian writer who recently made it big with **Bastard Out of Carolina**, a wrenchingly honest novel of incest and sexual abuse, talks about writing, feminism, S/M, and incest.*

30 WHIPS AND APPENDAGES . . . Mil Toro
Tired of the same old suck and fuck? Try doing it on another planet!

cover

Models: Que and Marisa
Photographer: Chloe Atkins
Makeup by Valarie Chabaux

pictures

17 A MIDSUMMER'S DREAM
Photos by Chloe Atkins
A very special collaboration brings you this steamy summer fantasy.

25 GIRLS WHO WEAR GLASSES
Phyllis Christopher
Boys don't make passes at girls who wear glasses...but girls do.

33 HERMA & BERGIT . . . Annie Sprinkle
A touch—and more— of the German.

Girls Who Wear Glasses on page 25

Sex Toys

How to order them without embarrassment.

How to use them without disappointment.

Today, people are interested in improving the quality of their lives...and exploring their own sensuality with options from the **Xandria Collection.** Sexual devices can provide a new and entirely positive source of pleasure.

The most important aspect of satisfaction is trust. Trust us...thoughtful consideration goes into each product in the catalogue. Quality, value, and sensual appeal are all important elements, as are you, the customer.

What is the Xandria Collection?

It is a very, very special collection of sensual devices. It includes the finest and most effective products available from around the world. Products that can open new doors to pleasure (perhaps many you never knew existed!).

Our products range from the simple to the delightfully complex. They are designed for both the timid and the bold. For anyone who's ever wished there could be something more to their sensual pleasure.

The Xandria Collection has a unique three-way guarantee.

First, we guarantee your privacy.

Everything we ship is plainly packaged and securely wrapped, with no clue to its contents from the outside. All transactions are strictly confidential, and we never sell, give or trade any customer's name.

Second, we guarantee your satisfaction.

If a product seems unsatisfactory...simply return it for replacement or refund.

Third, we guarantee that the product you choose will keep giving you pleasure....

Should it malfunction, simply return it to us for a replacement.

The Xandria Gold Collection...a tribute to closeness and communication. Celebrate the possibilities for pleasure we each have within us. If you're prepared to intensify your own pleasure, then send for the **Xandria Collection Gold Edition Catalogue.** It is priced at just four dollars which is applied in full to your first order.

Write today. You have absolutely nothing to lose. And an entirely new world of enjoyment to gain.

The Xandria Collection, Dept. OB0793
P.O. Box 31039, San Francisco, CA 94131

Please send me, by first class mail, my copy of the Xandria Collection Gold Edition catalogue. Enclosed is my check or money order for four dollars which will be applied towards my first purchase. ($4 U.S., $5 CAN., £3 U.K.)

Name____________________
Address____________________
City____________________
State__________ Zip__________
I am an adult over 21 years of age:
____
(signature required)

Xandria, 874 Dubuque Ave., South San Francisco 94080.
Void where prohibited by law.

CONTRIBUTORS

Robbi Sommers is the author of *Pleasures, Players, Kiss and Tell, Uncertain Companions*, and *Behind Closed Doors*, all published by Naiad Press. Currently thigh-high in research for her next book, *Personal Ads*, she often asks herself "Is it hot in here or is it me?"

WENDY JILL YORK

Robbi Sommers

Lorraine Hutchins wonders why there's no hate crimes act including women as a class, and credits Little Rock's Suzanne Pharr (not Sweet William) for inspiring her to fight the right.

SARAH LITCHFIELD

Tanja Hollander

Tanja Hollander is living in Northampton, Mass., putting together a photo exhibit of sex workers.

Victoria Stagg Elliott is a writer and gay male porno reviewer based in Chicago and a proud member of Generation X and the Poverty Jet Set.

Mil Toro is a banker by day, a sci-fi writer by night. She is currently working on a novel about a lesbian vampire cab driver.

Mil Toro

Chloe Atkins is a lone-wolf dreamer with a firm base in all areas of classical art.

Bobby Lilly is the founder and director of Californians Against Censorship Together (Cal-Act).

GENYPHYR NOVAK

Genyphyr Novak

Genyphyr Novak is a freelance photographer and writer living in Chicago. When not behind a camera or computer, she is incredibly shy. She is listed and may be single.

Photographer **Liz Zivic** is a South of Market institution. She operates a snappy rental studio (241-9809). Liz is happy as a clam at high tide to have Stafford as a new neighbor.

Melissa Murphy would like you to contribute to the Erotic Video Education Fund Project. The EVE Fund Project seeks to support erotic and/or educational video projects with a multi-cultural focus which incorporate innovative strategies that promote safer-sex practices between women and address other women's health issues. Write for more information. The EVE Fund, 346 Ninth St., SF CA 94103.

Stafford (yes, just Stafford) is an art director, graphic designer and photo manipulator. Her/his business, SERVICE STATION DESIGN, provides sliding scale service to Frameline, Visions Magazine, Girljock, Denueve, Mondo 2000, and On Our Backs, among others. LOOK NEATER, FEEL BETTER, GO FASTER!

Stafford

Errata: In our "Hands" pictorial (March/April 93) we neglected to credit Karen Augestin for the lines from her poem.

TANIA HOLLANDER

FEMALE COUNTERPART TO *THE CRYING GAME*

Letter to Judith Halberstam:

I loved your critique of *The Crying Game* in your article "Crying at the Moon" (May/June Queer Culture). *The Crying Game* has the kind of adult mentality American film makers can't conceive of, much less comprehend. It resonated a truth that belied expectation. Like you, I still considered Dil to be a woman after his biological gender was revealed, and his "male" facade was cruel. His world and ours tilted a bit.

I consider *The Crying Game* and another Neil Jordan film *Mona Lisa* to be a matching set—*Mona Lisa* is the story of an ex-convict hired to drive a call girl to her appointments and she engages him in finding another street prositiute who she is in love with. It is as if Jordan made the same movie twice, from both male and female points of view. Each film is a gritty, confident, dark and compelling personal story, a love story on many levels, and both celebrate gender diversity, racial diversity, and homosexuality.

Your review of *Claire of the Moon* was on target. 90% of it truly stinks. Why be polite? Why aren't lesbians capable of making good films about themselves? Why is it that heteros and gay men can see us with a sharper eye?

Lastly, like you, I don't care *who* makes a decent film. Just keep them coming. And don't be polite.

G. Murphy
Sacramento, Ca

LOVE ADDICT SAYS "GO FOR IT"

Kudos on your wonderful magazine. I'm glad it's bi-monthly, since it takes me two months after receiving my copy to cool down. Especially loved January/February 93—in particular the "She Moves Me" pictorial. But I was surprised to learn of your printer's squeamishness in this day and age.

I was also happy to read that Gentry shares my love of pornography—I cut my teeth on it, and still love T&A magazines, peep shows, live sex shows, etc. I think it's healthy for everyone: icing on the cake for those who get sex regularly; a health outlet, especially in these days, for those who are between lovers; and maybe a lifesaver for those who don't have lovers. I believe for every psychotic who says porn made him kill and rape, it's a safety valve that releases pressure for thousands of others. Women should go more often—if not to suck tit and lick pussy, then at least to embarrass the men and watch them zip up and slink off into the shadows.

Keep up the good work. *On Our Backs* is needed.

S. Aletti
New York, NY

THANKS FOR THE SURGE

I was blown away when I saw Denise Bailey ("Summer Tease") in the May/June issue. It's been eight years since my motor has ran let alone even warmed, but Denise cranked it to the max! She's one hot superfox! I'd like to see more of her—maybe even an interview. I'd like to know more about her.

Marsha Sheiner
Fort Worth, Tx

My wife and I love your magazine, I can't wait for new issues, I devour every page. My wife wants to do a photo layout for your mag starring us. (She thinks we're sexually gifted!) Thanks and keep up the good work—I'd hate to masturbate without you.

Erica H Gonzalez
San Jose, Ca

DISCONCERTING DILDOS

I sincerely love your sexy shots of gay women, and the articles, especially of late, have been very informative.

A few complaints: Why all the interest in women with dildos? I know it's a turn-off to me as well as to many of my lesbian friends, and believe me, we're no prudes. Seeing a cute, sexy woman sucking a huge dildo is disconcerting.

Now for piercing: Oy vey! Who wants to have my cavitiy fillings react with a clit or tit ring? I think it looks awful! The only thing that amuses the hell out of me is what would happen if a metal-ed woman set off the alarm at an airport security check.

Maryann Bombara
Brooklyn, NY

DIVERSITY, DESIRES....

I've been anxiously looking for my mail and finally yesterday my May/June issue arrived! What a nice way to start the summer with Denise Bailey. *Summer Tease* was a very sensual pictorial, proving that you don't need to be explicit to be sexy—but hey, don't ever stop being explicit either! Dawn was also very beautiful and sexy, Asian lesbians are not very visible and I commend you on your diversity.

I do have one request for you, though. Reading your back issue collection I saw a chronology of lesbian news and herstory. I've seen thin, fat, black, white, older younger, and many diverse kinds of models gracing your pages with their beauty. However, I have not seen Native American models. Is this for lack of applicants? If so, please find some. I would also like to see lesbians with disabilities represented. Diversity is what I like most about your magazine, I may not like everything I see or read but I respect the fact that it's included.

Robin C.
Kenmore, NY

We welcome your comments. Please send letters to Letters Editor, On Our Backs, 526 Castro St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Every letter must be accompanied by the sender's name and address. Letters may be shortened or edited for clarity.

WHERE THE GIRLS ARE
TRAVELGUIDE

San Francisco

Nancy's Bed
San Francisco • (415) 239-5692

Stay in a lovely, private, lesbian home, sunny and bright with deck. Your hostess, Nancy, is friendly and helpful with tourist information. Her home "away from home" is 5 minutes by car from "The Castro." $20 per women, per night. Best to call before noon for the night.

CLUB ECSTASY
415.
267.6915

Ecstasy Lounge
San Francisco • (415) 267-6915

Come to Club Ecstasy, the hottest members only Safe Sex Parties for women. Learn about and experience safe sex in an erotically charged environment. As a member you'll receive: a membership card (good for club discounts), safe sex supplies, hot demonstrations, and many other surprises.

Come meet our beautiful hostesses and visit our private booths, orgy rooms, dungeon, jacuzzis, and cafe.

Our next party is Friday June 25th 1993 and we've rented an entire hotel. We'll be having three parties. Hurry and register and a get a VIP pass to all three. Free shuttle bus to and from the parties, 2 heated pools, catered food, 2 dance floors, DJ's, and incredible performances by strippers, belly dancers, sex demonstrators and much more! Come create herstory with us in our sexual utopia at CLUB ECSTASY!

Norhtampton

WOW Productions Presents
The 4th Annual Lesbian Festival
July 23, 24, and 25, 1993.

No place on earth offers lesbians the opportunity to get away and be themselves like Northampton, Massachussetts. The fourth annual lesbian festival promises to carry out its outstanding and exciting tradition of bringing lesbians together en masse for one very special weekend.

The festival is filled with entertainment, and workshops from the outrageous to the sublime. The entertainment includes comedians Lea Delaria and Karen Williams, music by Cassleberry-Dupree, Suede, Girls In the Nose, and The Lesbian Lounge Lizards.

The festival is held on the grounds of the beautiful Swift River Inn which features 14 miles of trails for biking or hiking. Child care, ASL interpreters, wheelchair access, work exchanges and scholarships are all provided.

Accommodations vary from the traditional bed and breakfast to contemporary hotels.

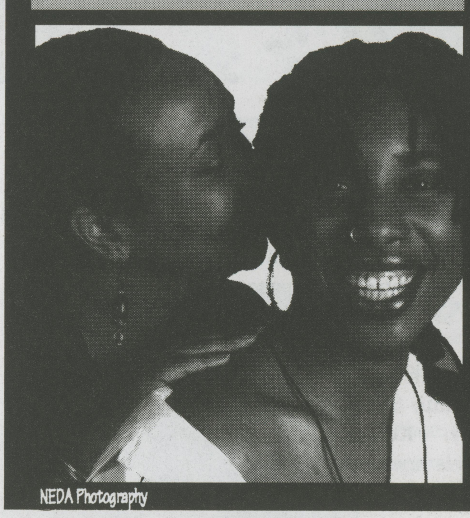
To save money purchase tickets in advance. 1,2, or 3 day passes are offered. Children under 16 are admitted free. Plus, discount airfares and car rentals are also offered.

Book early. Call Cinnamon Lautner at 800-234-0841. See you in Northampton!

National—U.S.

Next Wave Cruises & Tours
(800) 927-WAVE

A gay owned and opperated travel agency. Come to us with all your travel needs. Cruises, Vacation Packages, and Corporate Travel. We Do It All! Specializing in gay friendly places of interest.


It's no secret...

The WOMEN'S TRAVELLER lists the hottest dyke clubs & women's resources around!

Only $10 plus $4 shipping

For a FREE catalog CALL 1•800•462•6654

D The Damron Company WT

NEDA Photography

LET'S GO, GIRLS!

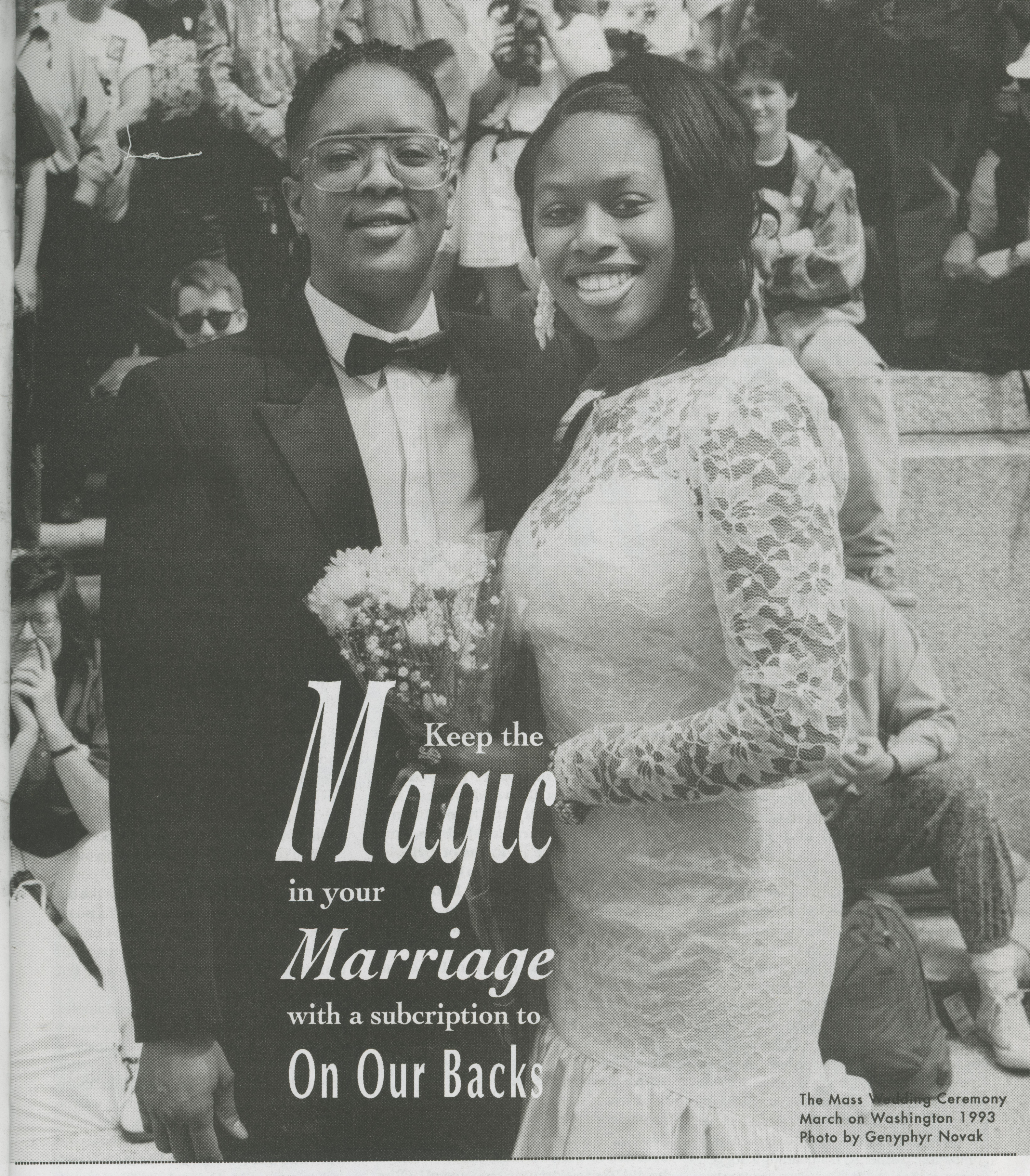
Whether you're going home to see Mom, or planning an exciting women's cruise...

CALL CINNAMON LAUTNER
FOR ALL YOUR TRAVEL NEEDS!
1-800-234-0841

UP UP & AWAY TRAVEL • 701 E. BROWARD BLVD • FT. LAUDERDALE, FL 33301

NEXT WAVE
CRUISES & TOURS
1 (800) 927-WAVE

GAY OWNED & OPERATED


Keep the
Magic
in your
Marriage
with a subcription to
On Our Backs

The Mass Wedding Ceremony
March on Washington 1993
Photo by Genyphyr Novak

SUBSCRIBE TODAY

1.800.845.4617

Send payment to: On Our Backs—JA93 • 526 Castro St • San Francisco, CA 94114

☐ **1 YR Sub, $34.95**

☐ **2 YR Sub, $59.95**

☐ **Canada $42.95**

☐ **Foreign $59.95**

Name ____________________

Address ____________________

City ____________ State ______ Zip ______

Signature X ____________________

☐ I already have a sub, please extend.

ASK FANNY

...*"Heterosexuals don't own positions, all are available to you."*

PHYLLIS CHRISTOPHER

NON-MONOGAMY

DEAR FANNY: Ever since I came out, it seems as if I've been engaged in an endless conversation with lovers and friends on the subject of monogamy. I and many of my friends have tried being non-monogamous, but it always seems to mess up our relationships. Yet we remain committed intellectually to the shining ideal of women loving many women without fear or jealousy. Will non-monogamy work in a relationship?

—Everydyke

DEAR EVERYDYKE: Can anything ever be ideal? And who made non-monogamy a relationship ideal for dykes, anyway? With so many attractive models for relationships around these days, and so many diverse individual needs, why limit ourselves to one model?

However, since you asked—first of all, there are three general types of non-monogamy to choose from: the Communal, with a group of women living and sharing all aspects of life together; the Team, where a couple chooses to bring one or more individuals into their bed; and the Individual, who has sexual dalliances apart from her significant other. The Communal approach is best suited to those who are true seekers; the Team approach yields the best results for those more pragmatic types wanting to get their toes wet; and the Individual model is best suited to those in a fuck-buddy flavored relationship.

The most dangerous pitfall of Communal non-monogamy is CED (communication energy depletion) caused by overprocessing group dynamics— like overprocessed hair, it's usually terminally tangled. Jealousy is a common malady that has thrown a wet towel on many a Team excursion, and callous self-interest is the Individual model's most dangerous booby trap.

Perhaps the reason lesbians in general consider non-monogamy more "evolved" (and therefore an ideal to strive for), is because its success demands that one attain mastery over a number of hard-to-achieve situations. These are: 1) finding a highly compatible partner; 2) maintaining a dogged commitment to each other despite all odds; 3) two truly open minds; 4) sexual sophistication (having experimented a lot, or at least being well-read); 5) having insecurities under control; and 6) an ability to communicate assertively without platitudes and psychobabble. Without meeting all of the above, we're just playing with fire and fooling ourselves.

Perhaps you're just taking the cocktail chatter a bit too seriously.

YOUNG LUST

DEAR FANNY: I'm 19 and have finally come to terms with my desire for penetration—I bought a dildo and harness, and I can't wait to try it out! The problem is my small town of radical lesbian feminists who oppose all forms of artificial penetration, and this group includes the few dyke acquaintances I know, so I have no one to talk to about my new appendage. I've never slept with a man, nor used a vibrator on myself or old girlfriends, so I'm pretty naive about this penetration thing. What I need to know is: what are some primo positions for dykes to fuck in? I'm moving to a big city this summer, and I don't want to look like a country bumpkin to the new women I meet there.

I was also wondering about my past experiences and fantasies. I only get off "doing," and rarely have fun receiving sex. Am I a stone butch? I don't want to be. I'd like to start enjoying myself. I like tying up my partners during sex. Is sex just some kind of a "power trip" to me, and is that why I have a hard time letting go?

—Big City or Bust

DEAR BUST: I'm excited for you! You know you are a butch, you know you like to play with dildoes and you like tie-up games! You're already ten steps ahead of most women your age on the lifelong sexual journey you're undertaking, and your decision to seek out and identify what is sexually satisfying to you is the key to success.

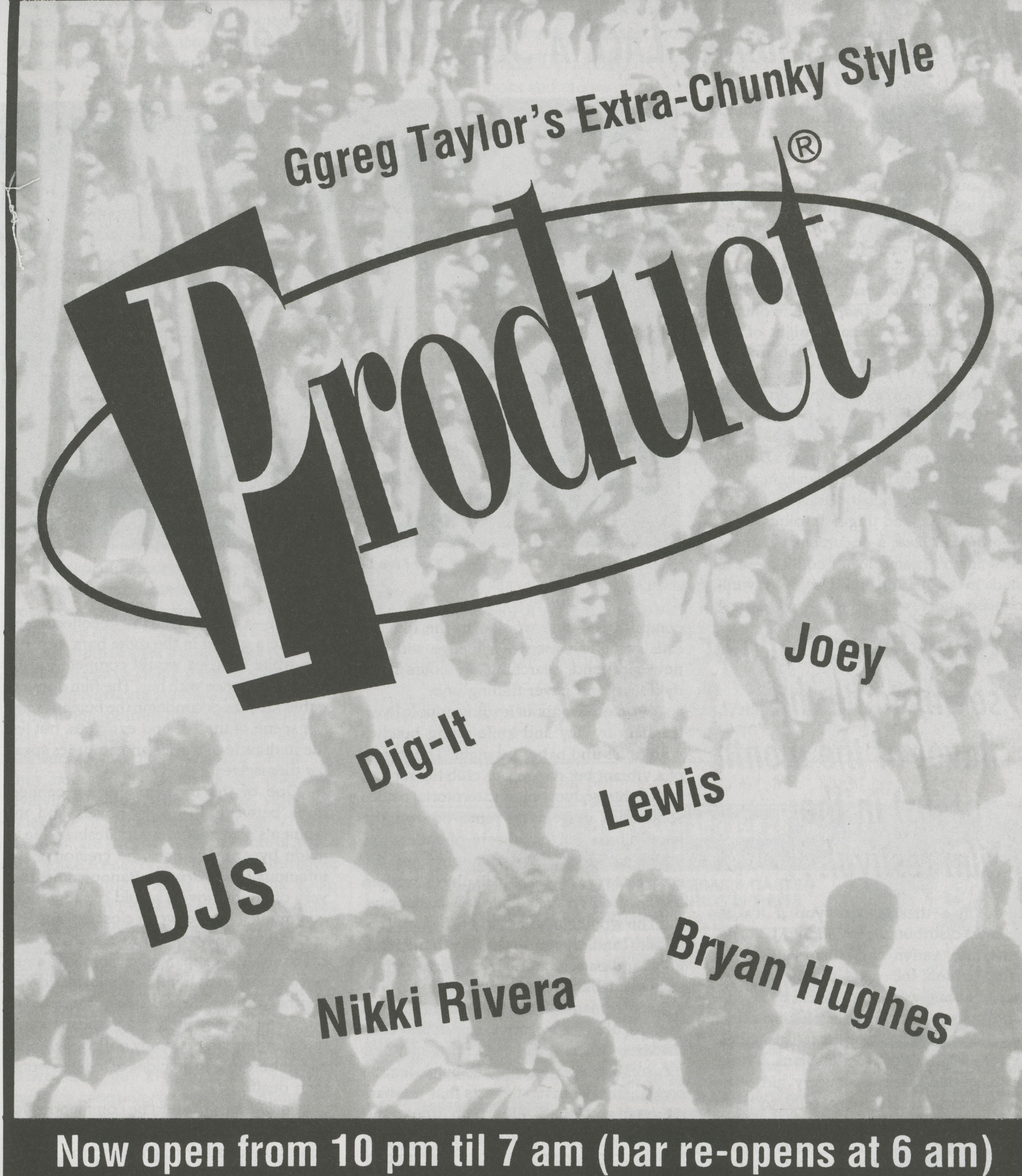
Since heterosexuals don't own positions, all are available to you. Try your dildo and harness with a partner's legs over your shoulders, or fuck her from behind. But positions play only a small role in getting off. What's in your head, and building the feeling in your body, are more important.

You're not a stone butch, you're a butch top. Nothing wrong with liking sexual power trips—there are plenty of bottoms in the big city just waiting to play with you! I assume by "letting go" you mean you don't care to be penetrated yourself—nothing wrong with that either. Perhaps you will in time, but don't worry about it now.

If you mean you don't like your nipples pinched, your dildo sucked, your lips kissed or your skin caressed, then, ya, that's a problem, and you have to find out why. But first realize that most butch tops like those things, but only if it's done a certain way or with a certain attitude. I suspect the more lube that dildo sees and the more creases get worn into that harness, the less these issues will concern you. Happy hunting!

Fanny loves to hear from you! Send your question to: *Ask Fanny*, 526 Castro Street, San Francisco, CA 94114.

Saturdays • 1015 Folsom • San Francisco



Ggreg Taylor's Extra-Chunky Style

Product®

DJs

Dig-It

Joey

Lewis

Nikki Rivera

Bryan Hughes

Now open from 10 pm til 7 am (bar re-opens at 6 am)

$5.00 off with this ad • ProductLine (415) 431-2697

WHO SAYS LESBIANS LACK A SENSE OF HUMOR?

The Five Lesbian Brothers

You know the kind of novels I mean when I say "Pulp fiction": *Twisted Sister*, "the story of two women and their perversions"; *Lesbian Teachers*, the story of women who learn the hard way"; *Martina's Secret*, "lesbian hard ball"; *Dildo Diana*, "one woman's story of her cock." Opening night of the 1993 San Francisco Gay and Lesbian Film Festival featured *Forbidden Love*, a sassy and humorous look at lesbian pulp fiction of the 50s and 60s, and the real lives that it failed to represent. *Man Haters, Queer Patterns, Lesbians in Black Lace, Satan's Daughter*—these titles are pure lesbian camp, and the novels tell melodramatic stories of wasted lives, lost loves, and tragic heroines.

Forbidden Love, a documentary, traces nine women's memories of coming out in Canada in the 50s and 60s. It is glossy, well-produced, very well edited—and it may end up in a theater near you if it's as efficiently distributed as it should be. The filmmakers, Aerlyn Weissman and Lynn Fernie, exploit the mass-produced pulp fantasies about lesbian life nicely by fading in and out of one pulp tale of "forbidden love," and wittily contrasting it to the memories of a diverse group of older lesbians. In this pulp story it's Laura, a country girl who ventures into the big city only to find herself in a dyke seduction scene on her very first night. Laura, in fact, wanders into a lesbian bar as soon as she steps off the train! Needless to say, the task of finding dyke bars during that era was much more complicated—one woman in the film recalls going to Greenwich Village with her new girlfriend, searching for hours for a dyke bar, and never finding one.

> **Camp lesbian humor seems to be the flavor of the month, not just in the film festival...**

Women talk about leading double lives: teachers by day and knife-toting butches with bikes and babes by night. The stories of a vibrant but dangerous club life replete with fights, seductions, and territorial battles sometimes aren't so far removed from the juicy blurbs on the covers of the pulps, which provide a nice metaphor for the actual cover stories which these women had to use in order to survive as lesbians.

The women featured in *Forbidden Love* speak candidly and clearly about their good and bad memories of a period when lesbianism dared not speak its name. Some women remember butch-femme relations as particularly oppressive, sexist, and constrictive. Others recall with nostalgia their pleasurable experiences of the butch-femme codes. One woman suggests that the bars were sad and lonely, filled with drunks and junkies, overwhelmingly white, and often hostile to women of color. But another woman—a black woman—recollects feeling like a queen in the dyke bars, because the white butches would compete for the chance to dance with her. The film does not either idealize or condemn the butch/femme bar scene of the 50s and early 60s, but lets the multitude of stories and attitudes speak for themselves.

JUDITH HALBERSTAM

One of the most interesting connections between the pulp novels and the women's real memories of lesbian life is made by Ann Bannon, the creator of the infamous *Beebo Brinker*. Bannon notes that very often the novels would create lines of communication between closeted women, and indeed one woman recalls that it was precisely the exchange of some of these novels that led to her first sexual affair with another woman. Ann Bannon attempted to intervene in the publishing industry's formula for lesbian fiction by not condemning all her heroines to suicides or to fates worse than death.

Forbidden Love is to be commended for its breadth, its humor, and its attempt to contribute another fragment to the history of lesbian lives. The two women of color featured in the film, a black immigrant woman and a native woman, discuss their very different experiences in the largely white gay communities of Montreal and Toronto in the 50s. A pulp fiction cover appears on screen to ask *How Dark My Love?*, and claims to tell a tale of "a love doubly forbidden" between a black woman and a white woman. The two women in the documentary suggest that they were often the only women of color in the lesbian bar, and the native woman suggests that the drunkenness and racism of the bar scene represented everything she had been trying to escape.

The lonely experiences of the women of color in *Forbidden Love* suggest that there's a more complete story to be told about intersections of racism, homophobia, and sexism for those who are indeed "doubly forbidden," and in fact this year the festival did try to highlight what they called "Sistah Action." Some of the most innovative features were produced, directed, and written by women of color.

"Sistah Action" was especially programmed for the festival by African-American filmmaker Aarin Burch. My favorite pieces in this series were Dawn Suggs' *I Never Danced The Way Girls Were Supposed To*, and Yvonne Welborn's *Monique*. Suggs' *I Never Danced*... represents "just another day in your average black lesbian household." It humorously imagines the answers to often ridiculous but pointedly homophobic questions about lesbians such as "Why do you wear masculine shoes?" "Why do you walk like a man?" "Do you think lesbians eat different from straight women?" The voiceover introduces us to Jackie and Lisa: "Jackie's in the kitchen making sandwiches." And, "Lisa's in the living room shining shoes." Jackie and Lisa, of course, fail to provide esoteric answers to the questions—but neither do they confirm that lesbians are "just like everybody else." The colorful video sequences of Jackie and Lisa in *I Never Danced*..are broken up by beautiful black and white scenes of two women in the street cruising to the sounds of Chakha Khan chanting "I'm Every Woman." As the piece moves back and forth between living room, kitchen and street, Khan's song becomes an anthem to difference and solidarity.

Monique by Yvonne Welbon strikes a very different note. This is a moody black and white film in which a narrator recalls how and why she hated Monique, the only other black girl in her school. The film captures creeping shadows and mimes the main narrative by framing shadows or silhouettes of little girls in pigtails. The dark shadows capture the frightening world of the playground and represent the relationship *(continued on page 39)*

GOOD VIBRATIONS:

A friendly, feminist catalog of vibrators and other sex toys. We have the largest selection of silicone dildos, plus harnesses, lubes, massage oils and more.

THE SEXUALITY LIBRARY: A catalog of over 350 books and videos about sex, from enlightening advice to electrifying erotica. Our videos (including feminist and lesbian-made erotica) are hand-picked by Susie Bright.

Catalogs cost $4 each, $5 for both *(applied to first order)*. *Woman-owned and operated for 15 years.*

938 Howard Street #OO, San Francisco CA 94103

Good Vibrations

JOB OPENING

ADVERTISING SALES DIRECTOR

ON OUR BACKS seeks an outstanding sales director—One with a proven track record in advertising sales and sales management. Building business where it doesn't exist and increasing it where it does is what this position is all about. If you want to be professionally challenged in a unique, exciting, and growth-oriented women's business—we promise all that and more. We offer salary plus commission, health insurance, and paid vacation. Send cover letter, resume, and salary requirements to: Publisher, ON OUR BACKS, 526 Castro Street, San Francisco, CA 94114.

Naughty Nostalgia! WOW

FIRST TIME ON VIDEO! FIRST TIME ON VIDEO!

BEE-HIVE HAIR! MINI-SKIRTS! POINTED BRAS & GARTER BELTS! WICKEDLY TWISTED SEX ABOUNDS IN THESE BIZARRE FILMS FROM THE 50'S & 60'S!

- **SHE MOB** (1968) All female gang humiliates men.
- **VENUS IN FURS** (1967) Role-playing weirdness.
- **1000 PLEASURES** (1968) Ultra kinky.
- **CURSE OF HER FLESH** (1967)
- **TOUCH OF HER FLESH** (1967) Very warped stuff from Roberta Findlay.
- **THAT TENDER TOUCH** (1969)
- **GIRL WITH THE HUNGRY EYES**(1967)
- **TEASERAMA** (1955) BETTY PAGE!
- **VARIETEASE** (1954) More BETTY PAGE!!
- **THE GIRL FROM PUSSYCAT** (1968) She'll make you prrrrrr!
- **60's GO-GO CHICKS vol.1 & vol.2** 60's Go-Go at its sleaziest!
- **WRASSLIN' SHE BABES OF THE 50's vol. 1 & vol. 2** Wild footage of 50's pro women wrestlers.
- **60's BIZARRO SEX LOOPS vol. 1 & vol. 2** Leather, rubber, and HIGH heels!

All orders shipped UPS Ground. Please allow 3-4 weeks for delivery. Personal checks must clear before shipping. Add **$3.00** postage for 1st tape. **$1.50** each additional tape. Overseas orders add **$7.00** per tape. Canadian orders add **$5.00** per tape. A signed statement that you are 18 or older is required.

Please make all checks/money orders payable to SOMETHING WEIRD VIDEO

All videos are $20.00 each.
PHONE: (206) 361-3759
10:00am-10:00pm
FAX: (206) 364-7526

SOMETHING WEIRD VIDEO
Dept. F.L.O. PO Box 33664
Seattle, WA 98133
VISA & MASTERCARD accepted

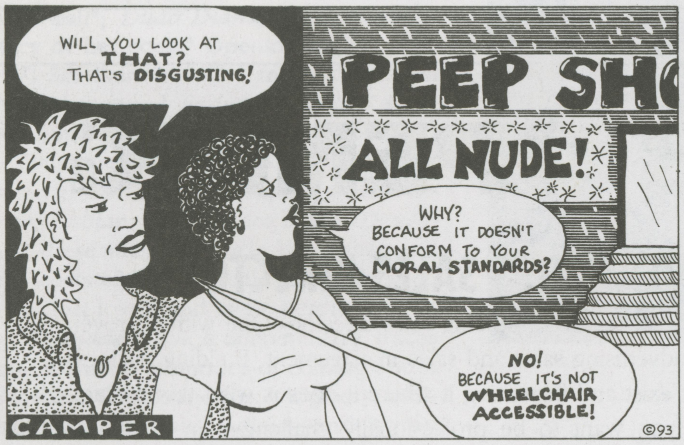
For a complete catalog send $3.00 to: "SWV Catalog"
Dept. F.U.N.
PO Box 33664
Seattle, WA 98133

SOMETHING WEIRD VIDEO

Censorship Update

by **Marcy Sheiner**

This column brings you information about the wave of censorship threatening and often stifling free expression. So that you can keep reading On Our Backs and other "subversive" materials, take a stand. Be informed. Fight censorship.

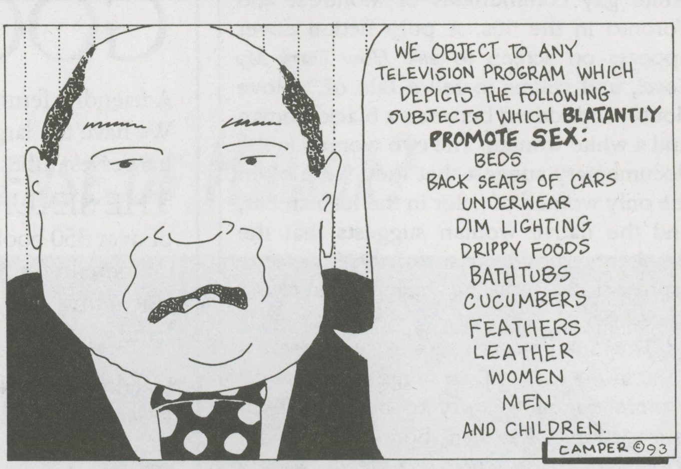

WILL YOU LOOK AT THAT? THAT'S DISGUSTING!
PEEP SHO
ALL NUDE!
WHY? BECAUSE IT DOESN'T CONFORM TO YOUR MORAL STANDARDS?
NO! BECAUSE IT'S NOT WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE!
CAMPER
©93

Roll Up For A Peep

That's what the **San Francisco Planning Commission** recently decided should happen when it ordered an adult bookstore to provide access for disabled people into its movie booths. The order was in direct opposition to local residents, who wanted the establishment shut down. **Judy Smith**, a disabled rights activist, laughed heartily when told of the decision. "Of course disabled people should have access to peep shows if that's what they choose to do," she noted. "I love it that the **ADA (Americans With Disabilities Act)** is reaching into all aspects of life. There's been so much denial around the sexuality of people with disabilities, and I think it's great that it's out there now."

Hosing Down *Playgirl*

The **Los Angeles County Fire Department's** new sexual harassment policy includes a provision that prohibits possession on the job of "any material or object of a clear sexual connotation." Under this definition, diaphragms, condoms, safe sex information, ***Our Bodies Ourselves***, and many modern novels will be subject to confiscation if found in lockers or on a firefighter's person. The policy specifically prohibits possession of sexual material aimed at a female audience, mentioning ***Playgirl*** magazine by name. Maybe the department meant well in addressing the issue of sexual harassment in the wake of **Anita Hill;** or, maybe they were feeling a tad vengeful. It's a mystery as to how these rules will improve women's working conditions; rather, this policy is a prime example of how censorship is used to suppress female sexuality. **Feminists For Free Expression** have prepared a legal brief against the department. For more information or to join FFE write to 2525 Times Square Sta, NYC 10108.



That Kinky Little Screen

The right-wing **American Family Association** has called for a boycott of the **S.C. Johnson Wax Company** because of its sponsorship of "TV programs in which actors and actresses...blatantly encourage sex." Among the shows found objectionable are ***Northern Exposure, Top Cops,*** **and** ***L.A. Law.***

Danes Too Hot For Brits

"Red Hot Dutch," a Danish radio series that features explicit sexual acts, is apparently too much for the British government, which feels that laws governing the **European Economic Community (EEC)** allow entirely too much freedom on the airwaves. They are trying to find a legal way to stop the broadcasts, but in order to ban programming under EEC law, a member must prove it is harmful to the physical, mental, or moral development of minors, or that it contains language or footage that could incite racial, sexual, religious or nationalist hatred. Since "Red Hot Dutch" is aired in the early morning, most kids are asleep—so the British are feverishly trying to drum up an argument based on the premise that sex has the potential to foster hatred. If there's a will, I guess they'll find a way.

Administrations Come and Go, But Censorship Continues

Though many people naively thought the wave of censorship bombarding our country would end, or at least diminish, with the election of Bill Clinton, the **Video Software Dealers Association** reports an increase in censorship on the state level, with more than a dozen legislative bills to restrict or tax adult videos pending. And **People For The American Way,** the liberal media watch group, has issued a report warning of plans by the religious right to take over low level public offices around the country in order to foist their so-called morality on the rest of us. Expected focal points for action are Florida, California, Colorado, Michigan, Texas, and Virginia. Be forewarned: these groups are gearing up to wage an unprecedented grassroots campaign on issues such as abortion, gay rights, education, and freedom of speech. Just because we have a new administration in Washington doesn't mean we can be complacent.

Vindication of Whores

The disagreement that erupted between **The University of Michigan** and a group of artist prostitutes over the banning of their work for its pornographic content, (see Censorship, March/April '93), has been settled, with the school agreeing to re-install the censored work. The exhibit will be accompanied this time by a symposium on issues of feminist theory, sexual expression, and censorship.

Thanks to the following sources for much of the information contained in this column: Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD); Californians Against Censorship (Cal-Act); the ACLU; Adult Video News; and *The Spectator*.

NewsNotes

by Stephanie Rosenbaum

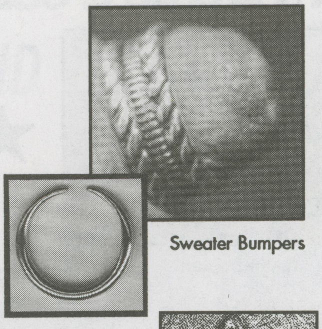
Lesbian Dollars

While Vogue and other high profile mags have long flirted with lesbian imagery in their fashion spreads, their advertisers—perhaps unaware that lesbians buy anything besides hiking boots and flannel sheets—have avoided putting women together in any situation more than sisterly. But with Roberta on the Hill and Sandra on TV, corporations are waking up to an untapped market. Such heavy hitters as **Giorgio Armani, Banana Republic,** and **Virgin Atlantic Airways** recently started advertising in gay publications. Even better, Banana Republic's ad spread in the April issue of ***Vanity Fair*** featured three hand-holding, dykey-looking women with the tag line "My Chosen Family." A previous series, "Free Souls," also featured same-sex couples. Now, if only Martina would pose for one of those Jockey for Her ads...

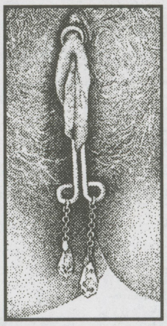
PHYLLIS CHRISTOPHER

Panty Raid

And speaking of panties, a new kind of chain letter is circulating the country. Instead of money, however, letter recipients are instructed to send a pair of panties (new ones, that is) to the next name on the list. The letter goes to women only, and if every girl does her duty, a chain participant could receive up to 30 pairs of panties. Women who have participated in the chain say the appeal is in the novelty. "I got a wild zebra-striped thong that I never would have bought for myself," said one woman, but another, who started a chain among her softball team complained that "I got 17 pairs of Jockey for Hers and one leather G-string!"


Sweater Bumpers

Pierceless Hoops


The Clit Clip

Don't Be Holey

Did you ever want all of the fun and none of the commitment? You can finally get it—at least when it comes to piercings. Some of our advertisers offer great alternatives to body decorations without the permanence or pain. **Sweater Bumpers Feminine Beauty Rings** offer fitted rings that encircle the nipple with no piercing necessary. They offer several designs and sizes. For hoops that dangle try **Shocking Gray's Pierceless Hoops** that pinch on and look like they go right through the nipple! Decorate down below with **The Clit Clip** carried by the **Xandria Collection.** The clip slides over the inner labia lips and offers a variety of gems that dangle alluringly.

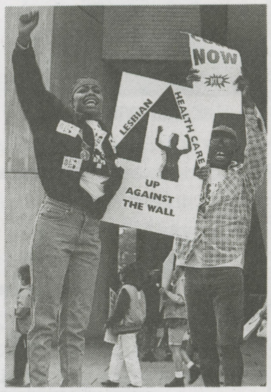
Nordic Rites

Norway joins **Denmark** as the second European country to recognize lesbian and gay unions as legal marriages. Besides silver-plated salad forks, married gay couples also get the joint property ownership, pension benefits, and tax breaks previously reserved for heterosexual unions. However, don't look for "Helga Has Two Mommies" yet—same-sex couples still can't adopt children.

March on Washington Roundup

How did the Parks Commission overlook the other half a million queers on the streets of downtown DC? Must have been that lesbian invisibility again...

Still, a giant leap forward was made by lesbians who, led by **ACTUP New York** organizer **Mary Beth Caschetta,** met with **Health Secretary Donna Shalala (SP),** members of her staff, and representatives from the **Centers for Disease Control, National Institutes for Health, Social Security Administration,** and **National Institute on Allergies and Infectious Diseases.** The group of 15 HIV+ lesbians demanded that a **Task Force on Lesbians and AIDS** be established, and asked for a follow-up meeting in the summer. "We definitely made dyke history," says Caschetta. "We told them that if they can reach lesbians with AIDS, who are often minority women, then they'll really be able to start doing more for all women's health." Caschetta adds that everyone was "extremely moved—but we hope they're moved to action, not just tears."



GENYPHYR NOVAK

It's not over til the last queer's off the plane—the fight for equality didn't end in Washington, as many gays and lesbians flying **American Airlines** found out . Over the weekend one of the favorite topics of conversation among friendly strangers was how great the weekend's 90-to-10 gay/straight ratio felt, including how cool it was to ride on queer-filled planes, where the crews' announcements of "enjoy the weekend's events" brought cheers. The ride home was a different story, when **Lou Sheldon,** head of the **Traditional Values Coalition,** was recognized on an American Airlines flight by **Karen Hight,** editor of **Lesbian News.** As the news spread that he was on the plane, gay and lesbian passengers began approaching Sheldon and calmly chastising him for his virulent homophobia. Ironically, lesbian couple **Pat** and **Karen Norman,** who recently modelled for **GLAAD's** "Another Traditional Family" billboard campaign, were among those confronting Sheldon. American Airlines responded to the event by hustling Sheldon into First Class then changing his seat again after he complaining of being seated next to a lesbian. Back in coach, the "fasten your seatbelt" signs were turned on, snack and beverage service halted, and passengers were no longer allowed to move about the cabin. When the plane reached Chicago, Sheldon was hurried off the plane in a throng of security, amidst chants of "Hey hey, ho, ho Lou Sheldon has to go." On another American Airlines flight from D.C. to Houston that weekend, a memo was circulated requesting a complete change of pillows and blankets before the next take-off. A routine request—except that memo specified the change was due to "the presence of gay rights activists on aircraft."

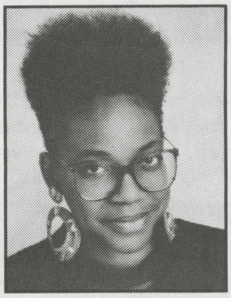
GENYPHYR NOVAK

On the up side, however, The March itself got six hours of **C-Span** time, hefty write-ups in major newspapers across the country, and will go down as one of the largest civil rights marches in American history. See you next year in New York for the 25th anniversary of Stonewall!

ROBIN TYLER PRODUCTIONS, INC. presents on

★ LABOR DAY WEEKEND - September 2 - 6, 1993 - NEAR YOSEMITE ★

14th Annual WEST COAST WOMEN'S MUSIC & COMEDY FESTIVAL


Karen Williams

Chris Williamson & Tret Fure

Joann Loulan

Ferron

Margie Adam

Lucie Blue Tremblay

Lynn Lavner

Diedre McCalla

JOIN THOUSANDS OF WOMEN IN THE WOODS!

Beautiful private wooded camp in the foothills of Yosemite. Only 3-1/2 hours east of San Francisco & 6-1/2 hours north of Los Angeles. GATES OPEN 9 a.m. - 11 p.m. DAILY.

FESTIVAL INFORMATION

TICKETS: 5-Day, Thurs., -Mon.; 4-day, Fri. - Mon.; 3-day, Sat. - Mon. **No one day passes. CABINS:** 150 cabin spaces available (no showers or toilets in cabins.) Each holds 6-12 women in bunk beds. **PAYMENT:** MasterCard & Visa accepted. Checks: U.S. currency only. **NO PERSONAL CHECKS AFTER JULY 20.** Credit card, money order, certified check or cash only. To order tickets, mail the coupon below with your payment, or charge your tickets by phone. **Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Mon. -Fri. Phone : (818) 893-4075 /FAX: (818) 893-1593.**

PRICE INCLUDES: Music, comedy, crafts, sports dancing, workshops, camping, food and fun! Showers and portable toilets provided. Everything within walking distance. Accessible to disabled women. Concerts interpreted for the hearing impaired. **24-hour Twelve Step Program.** Food and childcare provided. (No overnight childcare. Potty-trained only.) **CHILDREN MUST BE PRE-REGISTERED BY JULY 20.** Boys under 10 welcome. There will be some Women-Only space. **No pets permitted**, except seeing-eye or hearing impaired dogs. (Must be registered.)

WORKSHOPS AND OPEN MIKE: If you wish to be listed in the program, send a description of your workshop. If you wish to be on day stage, send a tape. Send these with your ticket order by 7/20.
Festival ends Monday, Sept. 6 at 3:00 p.m.

PERFORMERS

THURSDAY, SEPT. 2:
Lynda Montgomery (Comedy)
J.P. Poule
Sally Landers & the Fixations

FRIDAY, SEPT. 3:
Karen Williams (Comedy)
Margie Adams
Lucie Blue Tremblay

SATURDAY, SEPT. 4:
Joann Loulan (Comedy)
Seraiah Carol
Robin Tyler (Comedy)
Chris Williamson & Tret Fure

SUNDAY, SEPT. 5:
Deidre McCalla
Lynn Lavner (Comedy)
Ferron

DAYSTAGE / COMICS:
Sabrina Matthews
Robin Greenspan
Vanessa Kaufman
Pamela Gray
Mimi Freed

DAYSTAGE / MUSICAL:
Wolf Page
Kathryn Warner
Kim Kalman
Andalusia
Moondreams
J. Nelson Ramsey
Sweet Fury
Murphy

THEATRE:
Brownbag Readers' Theatre

DANCES:
Maile & Marina - Country Western
(Dances nightly/Lessons daily)
Second Wind ... Dances nightly

SPECIAL GUESTS:
Debra Rein & Sonika Tinker

WORKSHOPS GALORE!
CRAFTS FAIR! SPORTS!
POOL, LAKE & RIVER!

O B Cut & mail to: W.C.W.M.F. 15842 CHASE ST. NORTH HILLS, CA 91343 (818) 893-4075 / 893-1593 (fax)
(SEND *S.A.S.E.* FOR TICKET ORDERS-ONE STAMP PER TICKET PLEASE)

VISA
MasterCard

NAME(1):__________ (2)__________
ADDRESS:__________
CITY:________ ST:_____ ZIP:______ PHONE:_(___)________

WCWMF TICKET ORDER FORM

POSTMARKED BEFORE 7/20	AFTER 7/20	TYPE OF TICKET: 5 DAY (Thu-Mon) -4 DAY (Fri-Mon) -3 DAY (Sat-Mon) TICKETS AT GATE: $20.00 MORE AND CASH ONLY.	
$225	$235	5 DAY RV (no hookups, includes 1 ticket) * First person pays RV space. All others pay for camping ticket.	$ _____
$210	$220	5 DAY CABIN SPACE	$ _____
$195	$205	5 DAY CAMPING	$ _____
$210	$220	4 DAY RV (no hookups, includes 1 ticket)	$ _____
$190	$200	4 DAY CABIN SPACE	$ _____
$175	$185	4 DAY CAMPING	$ _____
$155	$165	3 DAY CAMPING	$ _____
$40	$45	PER 3-8 YEAR OLD CHILD	$ _____
$60	$65	PER 9-16 YEAR YOUNG WOMAN (9-10 boys)	$ _____
$25	$25	WORKSHIFT SUBSTITUTION (Everyone is asked to do a 3 hr. workshift. Add $25 to fee if you cannot.)	$ _____
		TOTAL:	$ _____

ENCLOSED IS MY (no checks after 7/20) : NO REFUNDS
☐ CHECK ☐ MONEY ORDER ☐ M/C or VISA INFO

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS/ MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO WCWMF

YOU MAY CHARGE BY PHONE OR PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING:
____MASTERCARD ____ VISA EXP DATE________

ACCOUNT # : __________

SIGN : __________

PLEASE SEND INFORMATION ON:
☐ WORK EXCHANGE
☐ CHILDCARE (before July 20)
sex & age of children:__________
☐ DISABLED RESOURCES (before July 20)
☐ I AM HEARING IMPAIRED

PLEASE SEND ME ______ FLYERS FOR DISTRIBUTION

WE HAVE SOME PAID POSITIONS FOR PROFESSIONAL COOKS. For Work Exchange, write re; skills by July 20 and we will send application.

TICKET PRICES ARE PER PERSON AND INCLUDE ENTIRE FESTIVAL.

FRENCH SEX AND HOW TO GET IT

Contrary to popular belief, France is not the erotic capital of the world. Anything does not go. Compared to San Francisco, Paris looks like Colorado Springs. The City of Lights is not a hot bed of hotbeds.

That's not to say that French dykes aren't sexy. Their erotic culture, however, is way behind the times. There's no fist-fucking, no dildos, hardly any SM or latex. The worst thing is, by U.S. standards, they don't know how to talk about sex.

When a French dyke says "sexe" she means her vulva. She doesn't have sex, she ***fait l'amour*** (makes love). Having analyzed role-playing in the 70s, French dykes now ignore the erotic possibilities. ***Femme*** is their word for woman, which makes them all femmes—which, of course, they aren't.

On the other hand, there's more to French sex than meets U. S. standards. Maybe they don't know how to talk about sex because they're too busy having it metaphorically all over the place. The French way of life does seem like one long erogenous zonification program.

> **You're probably asking yourself how you can get a goine...**

Their food is foreplay. The look and smell of those runny cheeses are a flagrant tribute to mouillé (vaginal fluid—literally, wet). And those rich, ecstasy-inducing ***patisseries*** (cakes), served with heart-threatening jolts of ***café exprès*** (espresso) are simulated ***plaisir*** (orgasm—literally, pleasure).

When the French do talk, preferably over a good meal, the subject is food, not sex—but how they talk is very sexy. Next time you see a French film, forget the subtitles and watch how they have to move their mouths in order to speak. They look like they're practicing oral sex.

Even when they don't talk, they're still doing it. The most common facial expression is ***la moue***, otherwise known as pouting lips, which they consider a sign of ***ennui*** (annoyance) or passive aggression—but to us it looks like they're puckering up.

And that's only on home ground. Consider what they export: perfume, champagne, high fashion, and Impressionist paintings. French culture consists in raising erotic consciousness to the level of art and then imposing this refinement on everyday life—whether we can afford it or not.

You might think all this cultural activity doesn't leave them any time for sex and that's why they never talk about it. Wrong.

Just because they don't talk about sex doesn't mean they're not talking about sex. Listening between the words, we discover their conversations are as eroticized as their meals. When they're not talking about food, they're discussing their emotions, but what they're really talking about is sex.

Their lack of graphic terminology isn't necessarily hypocritical. When the French have sex they have emotions, the same as when they eat. So the two things inevitably get mixed up in their minds. Food and sex. For the purposes of this article, sex and emotions.

Fortunately, experts in the field have established certain criteria for French erotic discourse. The following guidelines should facilitate transatlantic understanding.

The French vocabulary for love works on the opposite principle from the Eskimo's for snow—they don't have 20 words for love. They do, nonetheless, distinguish ***un grand amour*** (true love) from ***une histoire d'amour*** (love affair), ***une aventure*** (fling) and ***une histoire de cul*** (sex—literally, a story of ass).

These distinctions allow them to maintain ***un grand amour*** in one location while dabbling in ***aventures*** somewhere else. As long as everyone is ***claire*** (clear about what she wants), nobody gets ***blessée*** (hurt). So much for theory.

The trouble is, almost nobody's immune to ***la jalousie*** (jealousy) because they're all more or less ***en attente*** (waiting) even when they're not, strictly speaking, ***en manque*** (horny).

The way the French wait is pretty melodramatic. A woman can ***attendre*** for her lover even when she's not expecting her. She can ***attendre*** so hard she may be unable to do anything else. This ***attente*** can be a terrible burden for a lover to bear, because it can seem as free-form and never-ending as the blob. ➤

ERIN BLACKWELL

"Our Wall"

One is not born a woman, one becomes one.

22"x 29" Full Color
Limited Edition Print
of Original Oil Painting
(Signed and Numbered
by the Artist)

$24.95

Plus $4 Shipping

Sensual Images
of Women
Through the Drawings
and Paintings
of Lesbian Artist
Rene' Porter

Limited Edition Prints
Black & White Prints
Note Cards
T-Shirts

For a Free Catalog
Call us Anytime:
1-800-727-2651
or write:
RENE'/FINE ART, P.O. BOX 02001
COLUMBUS, OH, 43202

SEXPOINT *(from previous page)*

The way French women ***manquent*** each other is also pretty impressive. When one says to another, ***"Tu me manques,"*** she's literally saying, "You're missing from me." In other words, the one isn't complete without the other. Body and soul. This goes way beyond horny.

With all this intense ***désir*** (desire) going on, things can get pretty messy when ***déceptions*** (disappointments) occur. When a ***goudou*** (dyke—literally, sweet taste) doesn't get what she wants from ***sa copine*** (her girlfriend), she doesn't take it lying down. She'd like to take it lying down but it isn't happening, so to fix things she will ***piquer une crise*** (start a crisis).

The ***chantage*** (emotional blackmail) she uses will depend on her individual style, but there are several known techniques that deliver the goods. She may decide to ***faire la gueule*** (give the silent treatment—literally, make the muzzle), ***pleurer*** (cry), or ***casser des choses*** (break things).

If she opts for verbal abuse, she can shriek, ***"Tu me fais chier!"*** (You make me shit!) or ***"Tu m'emmerdes!"*** (You cover me in shit!) She can call her ***amour*** (love) a ***"Salope!"*** (Slut). She can tell her to ***"Va-t'en!"*** (Get lost) because ***"C'est fini!"*** (It's over!) and ***"Je ne veus plus te voir!"*** (I never want to see you again!).

If the treatment is successful, ***son amie*** (her friend) will admit surrender by complaining, ***"Tu me fais mal"*** (You're hurting me). At this point, both women are equally ***misérable*** (unhappy) but on the road to a ***rapprochement*** (getting back together). One could ask the other to ***"Prend-moi dans tes bras"*** (Take me in your arms) but will probably want her friend to get the message without having to say anything. That's where mind-reading has it over linguistics.

You're probably asking yourself how you can get a ***gouine*** (dyke) to play such exciting games with you. One way is to go to a ***boîte*** (club) and ***draguer*** (cruise). As soon as you've ***flashé*** (fallen) for someone you could ask her, ***"Voulez-vous danser avec moi?"*** (Wanna dance?) If she says ***"D'accord"*** (okay), you may not have to do too much more talking.

If you don't think you'd get very far in a bar, pick up a copy of ***Lesbia***, the French lesbian magazine, and go to one of the ***associations*** (groups) listed. When you see someone sexy, tell her, ***"J'ai besoin de votre aide"*** (I need your help). Show her this article and point to a phrase you consider an appropriate jumping-off point. Ask her, ***"Comment ça se dit?"*** (How do you say this?). Whatever her reaction, you won't be bored.

If, during the course of the ***soirée*** (evening) she says, ***"Tu me plais"*** (You please me), tell her, ***"Toi aussi"*** (You too) and the rest could be herstory.

If she says, ***"Tu me troubles"*** (You excite me but I don't know what to do about it), you could try the provocative ***"Tant mieux"*** (So much the better) or the reassuring ***"Prenons notre temps"*** (Let's not rush things).

To find out her status, ask, ***"T'es toute seule?"*** (Are you alone?). If she says ***"Pourquoi?"*** (Why?) tell her, ***"J'ai envie de toi"*** (I want you). If she laughs and doesn't run away, she may decide to ***craquer*** (go for it). In that case you can follow up with ***"Chez toi ou chez moi?"*** (Your place or mine?).

Say you make it to ***chez elle*** (her place) and agree to ***"aller au lit ensemble"*** (go to bed together). She might say something like ***"J'ai envie que tu me touches"*** (I want you to touch me), by which she means ***sur le clit*** (on the clitoris). She might say, ***"J'ai envie que tu me pénétres"*** (I want you to penetrate me), whereupon you may have to guess whether she means ***"dans le vagin"*** (in the vagina) or ***"l'anus"*** (anus). Or she may guide your hand to the opening in question and simply say, ***"Viens"*** (enter).

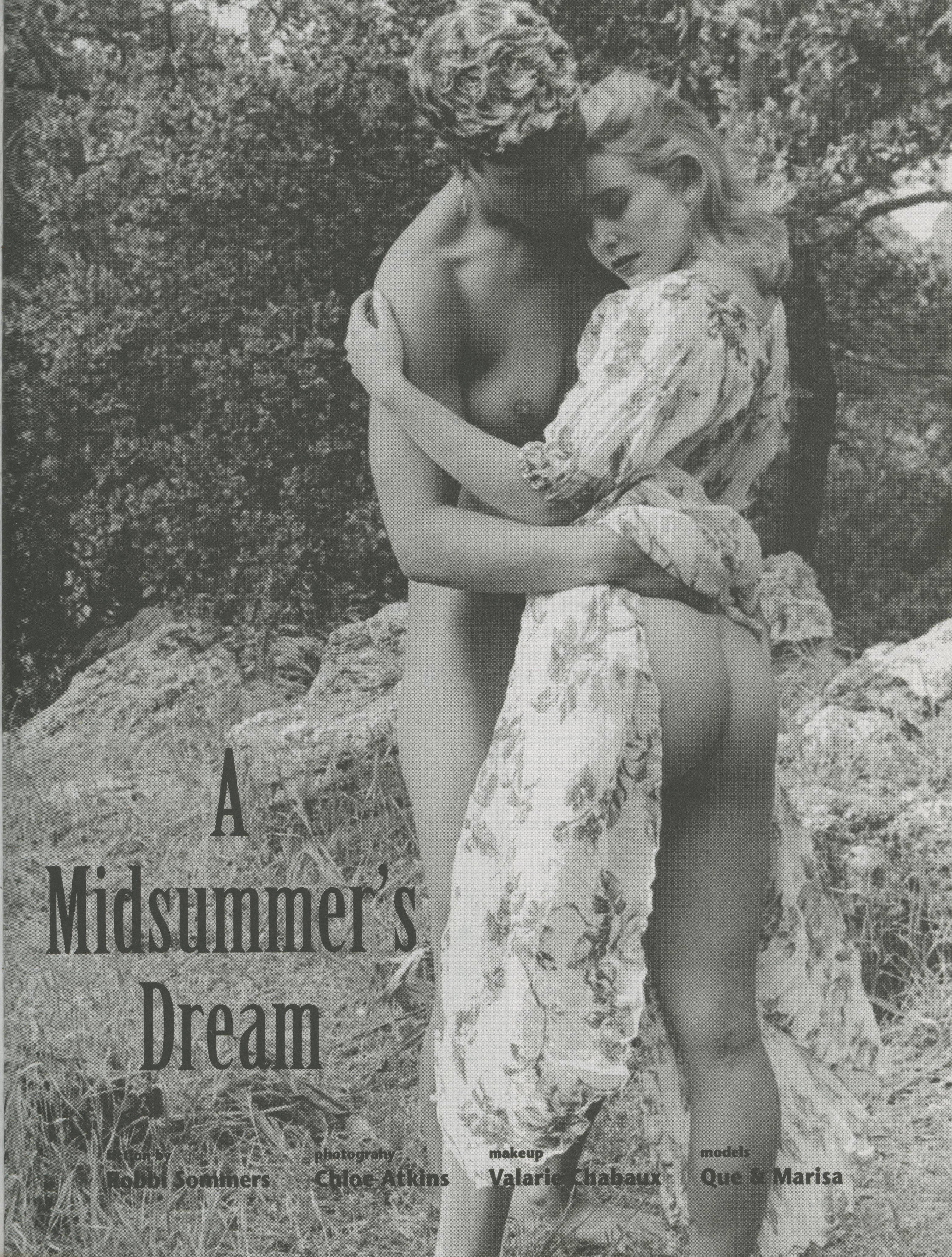
If you're not sure you're doing what she wants, ask, ***"Comme ça?"*** (Like that?). She'll either say, ***"Ah, oui!"*** (Oh, yes!) or ***"Plus fort"*** (Harder) or ***"Doucement"*** (Gently).

If you're feeling ***disponible*** (up for it) tell her, ***"Je suis à toi"*** (I'm all yours). If you like what she does, tell her, ***"C'est bon"*** (It's good), ***"C'est très bon"*** (Very good), ***"C'est ça!"*** (That's it!). You can use the same phrases the next morning in appreciation of ***le petit déjeuner*** (breakfast—literally, the little lunch), which will not be bacon and eggs.

If all goes well, after a few such ***rencontres*** (meetings), she may say, ***"Je tiens à toi"*** (I'm attached to you). This is the most beautiful sentence in the French language.

Attention! (Careful!) If you're not ***sérieuse*** (serious), your lover could suffer ***un chagrin d'amour*** (the shame of unrequited love). If, however, you're feeling ***amoureuse*** (in love), don't hesitate to tell her ***"Je t'aime"*** (I love you).

If you're lucky, you two will share a combination of ***cul*** (sex) and ***amour*** (love) that adds up to passion and is an international language which needs no translation. Δ



A Midsummer's Dream

fiction by
Robbi Sommers

photograhy
Chloe Atkins

makeup
Valarie Chabaux

models
Que & Marisa

“What a waste,” Laurel muttered as she grabbed her knapsack from the small boat and headed ashore. The best day of the summer—shit, the best day of the whole goddamn year—and she was stuck with a Shakespeare Lit assignment that guaranteed a full day's commitment. Everyone else she knew was headed for the Women's Arts Festival.

Laurel followed the worn path up the side of the hill toward the forest. High in its midday ascent, the unveiled sun radiated piercing rays. When she had been rowing across the lake, the cool water had diminished the intensity of the heat, but now, completely vulnerable, Laurel was well aware of the persistent sun. The shaded shelter of the trees loomed invitingly, and Laurel quickened her pace.

Face down, counting hurried steops, Laurel was caught off guard when she slammed into another hiker.

“Oh!” Flustered, thrown off balance, Laurel stumbled.

A strong dark arm reached for Laurel and steadied her. “You okay?”

“I wasn't watching where I was...” Laurel stopped mid-sentence. The woman, whose firm, warm hand still held Laurel's arm, whose obsidian eyes glimmered with mystery, whose sultry scent swirled deliriously, stood before her. For a moment Laurel debated feigning a swoon—to tumble to the ground, to have this woman swoop her into a powerful embrace. She could only imagine the strength, the passion, those sculptured arms might generate.

“I'm so sorry. I wasn't watching where I was going.” The woman hesitated as if something more would be said—as if, perhaps, something more was *indeed* being said—yet she said nothing further.

“No, I was daydreaming,” Laurel offered. Once again, she discreetly appraised the stranger's magnificent build and sincerely wished she'd been knocked to the ground.

Almost as an afterthought, the woman released Laurel's arm. “Well, it was nice running into you.” She flashed an amused smile, then continued on her way.

Laurel stood motionless, unable to do anything but watch the woman, who had a walk that could bring marching bands to an abrupt halt, head toward oblivion. An overpowering urge to cry out, *“Wait, come back!”* swept through her. *And then what?* Laurel argued with herself. *Ask this stranger to hold me? Kiss me? Make love to me?* As if such a thing were possible! As if such a woman would even be interested.

"Lord what fools these mortals be," Laurel mumbled, staring across the now empty landscape. Her woman had disappeared somewhere down the hill. With a heavy sigh, Laurel kicked a rock down the path and begrudgingly headed towards Shakespeare and the waiting forest.

There was a place, not too deep in the woods, that Laurel called her own. One day last spring, while searching for blackberries, she had discovered her paradise. Encircled by a thick wall of bushes, down an overgrown path, Laurel had come across a small area seemingly unspoiled by the normal barrage of island hikers. Here she came to soothe her wounds, dream her dreams or, as today, read the I-don't-want-to, rather-be-at-the-women's- festival, Shakespearean play.

She pushed her way through the thicket, not surrendering to the persistent branches that challenged her with sharp, fast scrapes. Her reward—the big tree she'd lean against, the soft grass she'd sit upon—finally came into view.

From her knapsack Laurel unfolded a thin quilt. She tossed a pen, a pad of paper, and her copy of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* onto the spread blanket, gratefully kicking off her shoes. *Shakespeare, here I come*, she thought, leaning against the tree.

The forest was tranquil, so tranquil that a weary hiker could fall asleep—if the trek had been long, if the sun had been too hot, if the words from the play she was reading hummed like a lullaby. Laurel drifted in and out of Shakespeare's whimsical settings until she slipped, quite unaware, into a dream...

...and the air was hot. In a sheer floral dress, she danced in circles across the open clearing. Surrounding trees enclosed the field like tall green guards, and Laurel did fairy-like pirouettes in the sun.

A seductive shadow—weaving between the trees, following her from the periphery? Laurel was uncertain, yet she sensed the dark eyes, those obsidian eyes, watching her from the forest. Around and around, Laurel, like a spiraling snowflake, twirled to please her hidden audience.

The shadow stepped into the sun. The heat sharpened, heightened, slowing the snowflake's dizzy dance. With a pace so exact, so steady, the mysterious spectator came to the center of the clearing, came to the lacy ballerina, and with one strong hand stopped the faltering spin.

At first the trees, the sky, the entire field still whirled, but even though she was temporarily disoriented, Laurel knew who had grabbed her from behind. She recognized the strength, the power, the passion in the gesture. The woman from the path had come for her.

“You,” Laurel said softly. Pleasantly light-headed, she turned to face the woman of her dreams, but instead a bewildering creature stood before her. The trim, muscular body, the onyx eyes, were definitely those of the woman. But the face, the entire head, was that of a beautiful bronco.

The horse spoke in a low, clear tone. “I have wanted you from that moment on the path.”

Speechless, Laurel stared into the horse's eyes and felt the distinct sensation of free-falling. Into the cool blackness, into the inky depths of those eyes, Laurel wanted to dive. The sun beat against her back. Too hot. Too, too hot. She felt suddenly weak, as if her legs would no longer support her, as if the grass-covered ground would soon give way.

In a swift motion, the horse-woman lifted Laurel and carried her across the field to a large, flat rock. The surface was rough and her sheer dress snagged slightly as the horse-woman lay on the stone altar.

“Are your thighs as creamy as the dress you wear?” the horse-woman asked as she slowly raised the flimsy material higher on Laurel's legs.

Laurel moaned as her dress was pulled up to her waist. She glanced into the horse-woman's eyes, then to her sturdy shoulders, and finally to her upper arms. A dark tattooed tangle of black roses swirled across one of her bulging biceps.

The horse-woman separated Laurel's legs and stepped between them. She tore open the top of Laurel's dress to reveal thick, erect nipples.

Laurel arched her back. *Do you like what you see?* she thought, as she strained her tits high. *Do you?*

“Your nipples,” the horse-woman said as she plucked each one, then both together, “are incredible.” She squeezed hard. Hard enough to cause Laurel to yelp in pleasured-pain.

With one fast snap, Laurel's silk panties were ripped aside. Her legs were spread further apart. Her pussy was completely exposed and the sun—the delicious, pounding hot sun—poured liquid heat directly onto her slippery pink sex.

“Yes,” Laurel cried. “Oh yes yes yes.”

“Do you want to go for a ride, my pretty princess?” the horse-woman muttered between short, quick breaths. Not waiting for an answer, she stretched the fleshy lips of Laurel's pussy wide, and sank a finger into the pearl sap. “How far? Huh, pretty princess? How far and how fast do you want to go?”

Two fingers? Three fingers? Laurel was unsure. They were big, they were rough, they filled her like nothing ever had before. Laurel raised her hips, attempting to push those fingers further, deeper. But the horse-woman continued her fingers' journey at an excruciatingly slow, deliberate pace.

Four fingers? Five? Eyes closed, teeth clenched, Laurel tried to relax the involuntary tight clamping of her vaginal muscles. Now thicker, now larger, now wider, the hand pushed in. Laurel's pussy felt packed, as if that hand were more than a hand. As if that hand were much, much more.

The horse-woman, whose hand was now buried up to her wrist, let out a long cry and then broke into a fast plunge.

Laurel's cry rivaled the horse-woman's. She felt as if she were racing bareback, galloping, thundering across a wide open plain on an unbroken stallion. It felt like fingers, then a fist, and, finally, a solid, thick hoof up her pussy. Didn't matter. It was good, it was hard, and it took her far, farther than she could imagine. Farther than she had ever been before.

“Ride me good. Ride me good!”

Farther and farther. Harder and harder. She slammed down on the hoof. It rammed high into her, over and over until Laurel disappeared in a dust storm of violent pleasure...

...as Laurel slammed out of her dream. Her back, pressed hard against the rough tree bark, felt scraped and raw. She felt dizzy, slightly disoriented, but completely satiated. Her book, still open on her lap, revealed pages that were crinkled and torn. The air was cooler and the sun no longer occupied its midday throne.

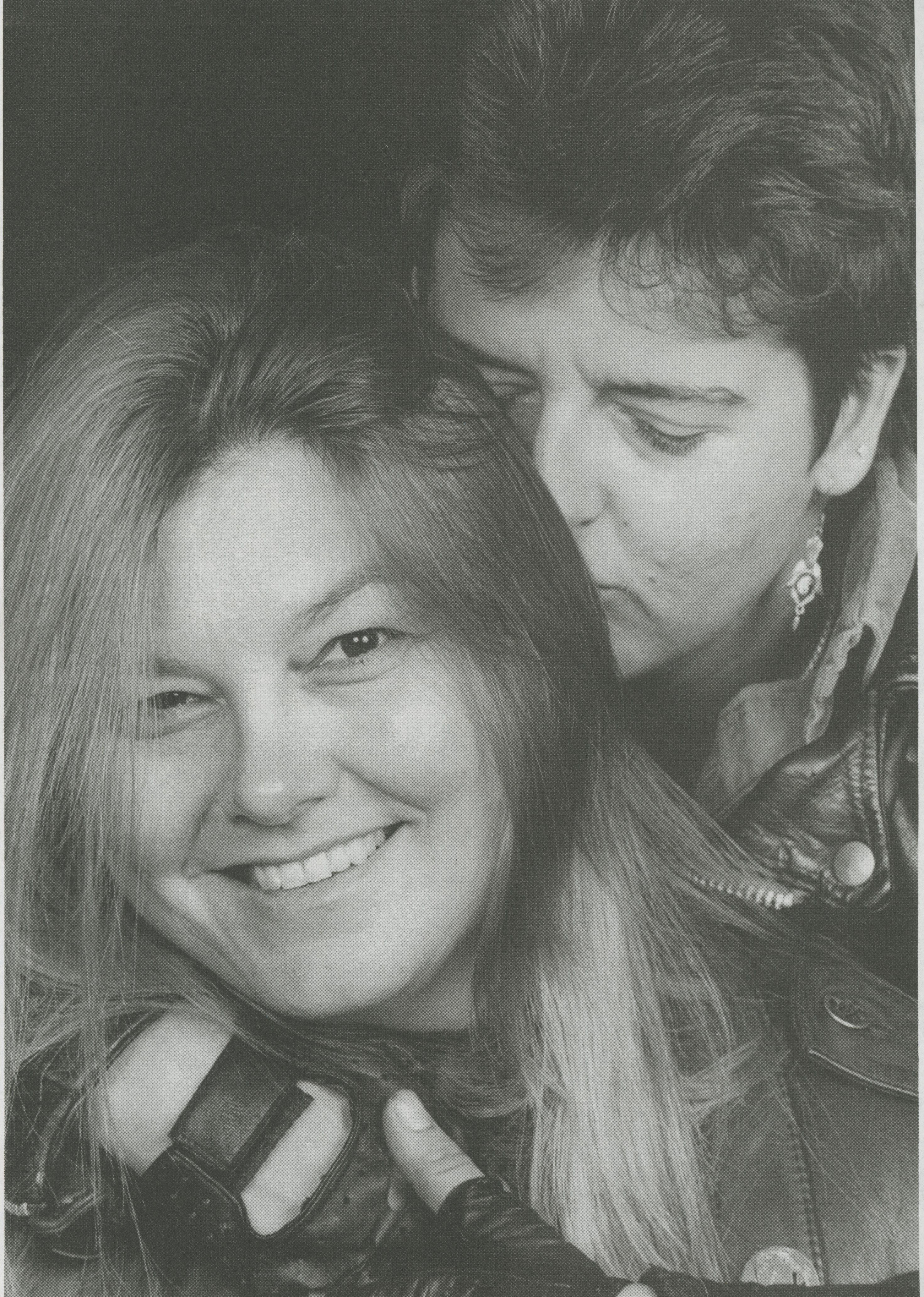
Lazily, Laurel gathered her belongings. She'd go home and finish her reading tonight. Through the thick bushes, back to the main path she headed. Every muscle ached.

Down the hill, toward her small canoe, she walked. It was there, not too far from where Laurel had come ashore, that she saw the woman, apparently asleep on a large blue blanket.

Laurel approached slowly. The woman, who had removed her shirt and was sunning in a bathing suit, didn't stir. Perhaps 30, maybe 40 steps in that direction would lead her to where the woman lay. A hundred steps or so to the right was the boat.

Five steps towards the boat. Five more. Laurel stopped and took one more look at the sun-soaked sleeper. It was then that she noticed a tangled black tattoo on the woman's upper arm.

Laurel took another step. Then another. Δ



THE ON OUR BACKS INTERVIEW

DOROTHY ALLISON

BY MELISSA MURPHY

In 1982, when feminists were afraid to admit that lesbians were even sexual, Dorothy Allison co-founded the Lesbian Sadomasochists in New York. When other women writers were afraid to write about incest as a complicated family dynamic, Allison published *Bastard Out of Carolina* in a mainstream press. And when it comes to writing about the adult incest survivor as a sexually empowered person, Allison's works have opened up spaces for women to tell their own stories and talk about violence and its relationship to desire.

Novelist, teacher, performance artist, and mother of a new son, Allison's books include *Trash* (Firebrand), Lambda Literary Award winner *The Women Who Hate Me* (Firebrand), and *Bastard Out of Carolina* (E.P. Dutton), a National Book Award nominee and recipient of the 1993 Bay Area Book Reviewers Award.

As I interviewed Dorothy Allison, I was reminded of the important role of the "perverts" who have fought throughout history to articulate their pleasure, and have enabled lesbians today to participate in the continual and ever-changing struggle to make our desires public.

Melissa Murphy: You wrote *Bastard Out Of Carolina* for a mass market audience. Was that a difficult process? Did you have to censor yourself?

Dorothy Allison: I did not want to lie. In the process of writing the book, the first thing I did was write *Private Rituals*, which is kind of an abstract. It's only about sex, about the sexual fantasies of Bone, the main character—whereas I think it is possible to read *Bastard* and avoid the sexual stuff. It's really possible to read *Bastard* as a working class novel and sidestep the sexual and violence issues. I was afraid in going to mainstream publishers that once they got a look at what I had they would push me to lessen the sexual content, to soften it or even to make it more traditionally sexual.

> *"I don't believe anything changes desire except for explorations and confrontation within yourself."*

Most novels about incest have this really offensive tone where the sex becomes a kind of fetishized dwelling on the interaction between the perpetrator and the victim, with enormous detail to the sexual violence. I was afraid that they would push me into more of that because that stuff sells. So I sent them *Private Rituals* along with the proposal and in the letter I said, you should know that this is the kind of sexual content that will be in the book. {Ed. Note: *Private Rituals* is a short story that appears in the anthology *High Risk.*} None of them turned the book down for it. In fact, I think for a couple of them, it was a main selling point. And then I talked with the editors and said I might cut all of that. Negotiating how sexual *Bastard* would be got a little tricky at times. Publishers told me if I changed the title or added more sex, the book would sell more copies. But I felt the integrity of the novel didn't depend on how much sex was or wasn't in it.

MM: Bone is an incest survivor who has masochistic fantasies. Were you concerned that this would feed into mainstream stereotypes about how incest affects sexuality?

DA: I had a lot of problems in the writing of *Bastard.* Bone was a way for me to explore a lot of that stuff from the inside. First I had to create a child that I cared about and then really look at what I believed actually happened, not fantasies of what could happen. I don't know where the S/M fantasy begins. I find that a less interesting question than how you manage to combine any kind of a sexuality at all with the mantle of shame that gets thrown over you as an incest survivor while you are still in it. Because that was my experience. That was the hardest thing I had to learn. In *Bastard* I make it clear that Bone may or may not survive. She believes she is an evil person, and that everything that happens to her is her fault. She is deeply ashamed of her S/M fantasies, but at the same time, they're a source of energy for her. She is not only a victim—she finds some heroism which isn't possible in her everyday life. Almost all of my S/M fantasies were heroic. I think that that has real positive emotional value for survivors. Become your own James Dean. Become your own martyr who can spit in the face of your tormentors. ➤

Photos by Jill Posener

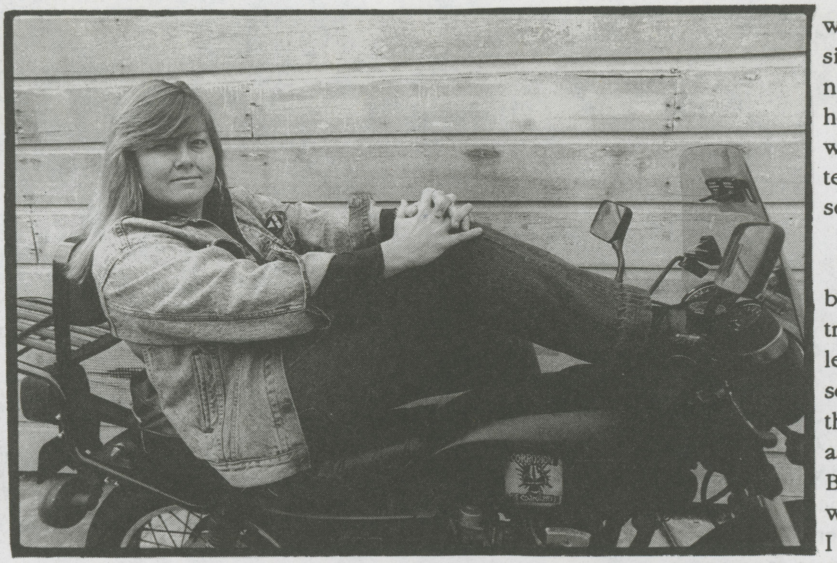
MM: Are there different ways that people in the S/M community think about S/M? For instance, many people think S/M is a way for individuals to work through abuse. Has that been your experience?

DA: Those are two very different questions.

There's only recently been even the possibility of a community of people who actually explore S/M—who talk about it, do it together, and have any shared understanding of what that means. When I was young, everybody who did S/M thought they were crazy. And were told they were crazy.

Now, I do not like, in fact cannot stand the notion that you can cure your sexuality or cure yourself through experimentation with S/M. I know that whole "you can repeat the catharsis" school of thought. You know that book-bullshit? It's like your daddy raped you when you were a child so you'll reenact this rape and that will somehow fix it. Bullshit. It does not fix it and anybody who believes that that's a legitimate approach to sexuality is wrong. But I think some people use that as a defense, an excuse for what they are going to do anyway, and I do believe that in the process of exploring your fantasy and working out what really touches your stuff, really gets down into your most vulnerable and most provocative desires, you can make enormous confrontations with really damaged places and come to some healing. But I don't think you can proceed as if that were the purpose of it in the first place.

My sexuality was almost entirely constructed around an attraction to very dangerous butch women. I just never found good-girl lesbians to be at all interesting—it was only the bad-girl lesbians that interested me from a very early age. And there weren't many of them around—you really had to hunt. The people who were sexually interesting to me tended to be working class women, bar dykes, partly because they were sexually skilled and not afraid of experimentation. Whereas the feminist lesbians I started to find in my 20s were basically into tribadism. For a long time there was even a prejudice against oral sex, I think because that's what straight people said we did, so nobody would do it. Anything that's fringe or dangerous behavior has that aura of the most despised, the most dangerous. Working class butches weren't afraid of anything. That's what made them sexually powerful to me.



MM: What got in the way of you coming out as someone who practices S/M?

DA: You have to remember that there were two cultures. There was the mainstream culture, which said we were all crazy. As far as they were concerned, white-bread lesbians were as crazy as black leather lesbians. Then there were white-bread lesbians and lesbian-feminists who were really sure that I was crazy, and I almost believed them. I had built up a defense against mainstream culture telling me I was nuts, but I didn't have any defense against other lesbians saying that.

MM: Did the realization that the "feminists" had a hard time with S/M change your desire?

DA: No. I don't believe anything changes desire except for explorations and confrontation within yourself. I don't believe anybody's outside theories will change your sexuality. It can get you to look at it a little harder and give you new tools. But God, the church, feminism, the government—nothing can change my sexuality. The only things that have changed it have been my own process of exploration. But it did make me more scared.

MM: Is there a difference between challenging yourself through your sexuality and seeing S/M as a process of healing?

DA: You can act out every S/M fantasy you've ever had and you can find lots and lots of people to do it with and accomplish no healing at all. I've done that. I've been in really embattled places in my life where I've tricked with a vengeance and it did not give me anything except to get my rocks off at that point in time. I know lots of people who fuck themselves up considerably in the S/M community, almost as well as in the heterosexual community and with just about as much determination. You must have seen some of that.

MM: Yes.

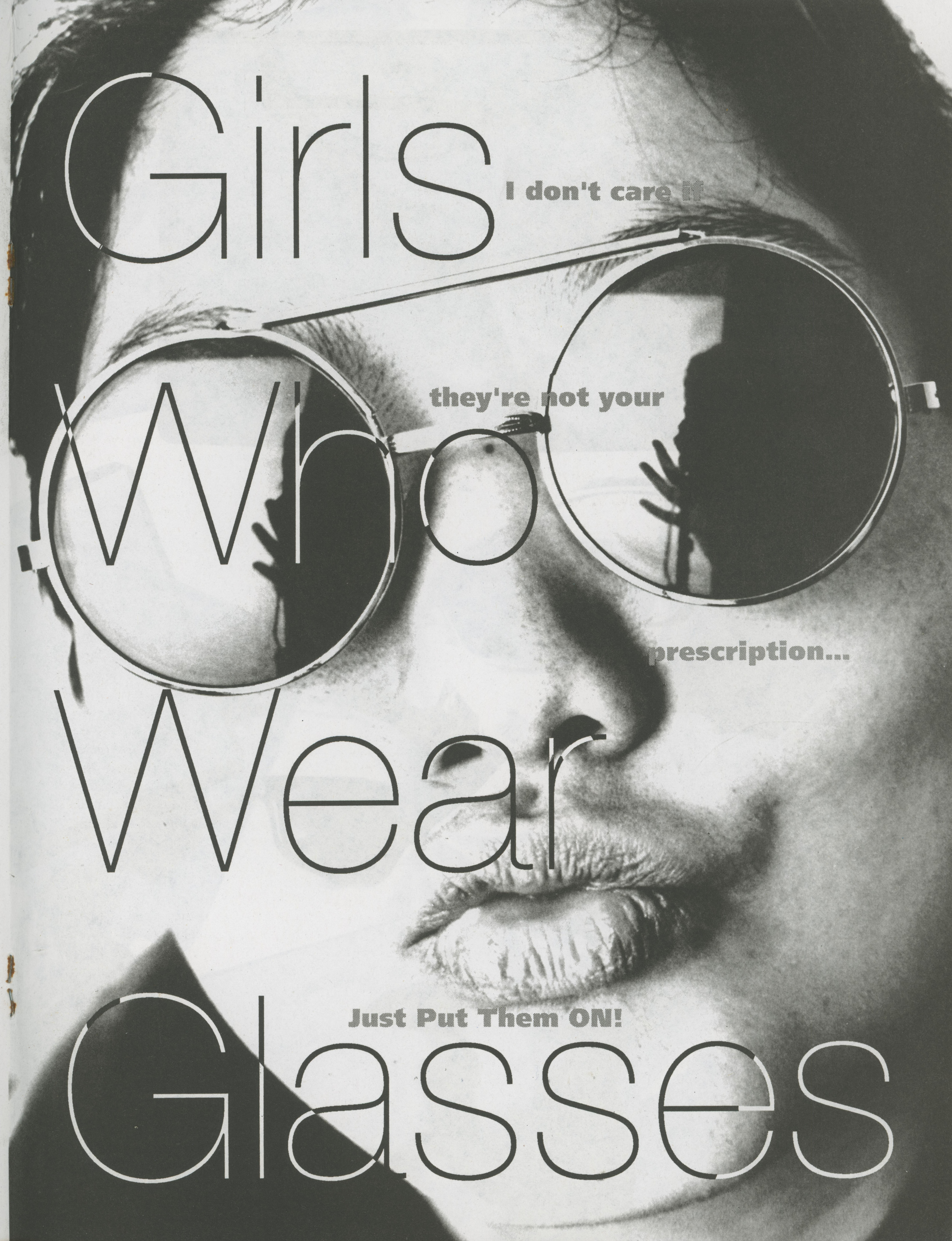
DA: I'll tell you what I believe. When I was young, I truly believed that I would learn something or acquire some special knowledge by the sheer act of sleeping with as many women as possible. But I don't believe that that was how I learned the things I really learned about myself.

I think for most of us, sexual play is sport fucking. Especially for a lot of technical S/M, it becomes almost gymnastics. You're really pushing yourself emotionally and physically, but it's almost kind of nonemotional. All of the context can be removed and it becomes purely the body and your own emotional powers and endurance and insight.

I do believe that for me S/M was a road out of being unable to connect with my body on any level. I can't talk about other incest survivors or violence survivors, but the particular things that happened to me as a child taught me not to have any physical connection at all. They taught me to live in my head because that was the only safety I could get. It drove me to delay becoming sexually active. Even when I started fucking, I was incapable of really feeling or being there in the experience for a long long time, and I think that is something that I learned a way out of through S/M. But it's almost impossible to talk about this without becoming really defensive, because so much has been said about S/M. Some social theories say that the reason incest survivors are attracted to S/M is because they're incapable of feeling anything and therefore they go for extremes in pain as a way to feel anything at all—and this becomes a criticism, a reason why you should not do this. If you are a person who can not feel and they tell you that this one place you can feel you are not supposed to do, then all you are left with is still being that person who can not feel. The theory has no compassion.

MM: Are lesbians out there talking about what they're discovering about themselves through their sexuality?

(continued on page 40)



Girls Who Wear Glasses

I don't care if

they're not your

prescription...

Just Put Them ON!

Photos by
Phyllis
Christopher

Whips & Appendages

tonight I'm going to be trouble, female trouble, I thought as I walked into Live Wire, the local bar on the Zedder Space Colony. I knew everyone was buzzing about my recent arrival, but I had come to the bar for one specific purpose. I had my eye on the alien female bartender, since I'd heard many rumors about her species. Her name was Nevia and she was a Zedder. Tension passed between us when I sat down at the counter and ordered my drink. I felt it when she glanced briefly but pointedly at my breasts. I felt it when our hands made contact as she served me. I refused to elude her touch, and she made no attempt either. I would never back away from such a bold invitation.

As Nevia moved behind the counter to carry on with her work, I continued to stare at her in defiance and lust. It seemed to have absolutely no effect, though I can be openly defiant, arrogant: cool. And aggressive—underneath my cool exterior was a smoldering heat of passion ready to explode. Rumor had it that she'd never had a sexual encounter with a human woman, but I wanted to change that. I wanted to be her first. Just like a virgin. ➤

> *"I had sucked other human women's artificially attached appendages…but this was the real thing—and it wasn't male."*

Fiction by Mil Toro

It was difficult for me to continue staring, because when I did, my loins would go into minor convulsions thinking about her soft hands brushing against mine. I knew I was challenging Nevia, but I couldn't help myself. I had heard so many rumors about her physical attributes that I was beside myself with lust—but I refused to humiliate myself and admit my desire. Still, my thoughts kept wandering to the rumors about Nevia's appendage, and the whips that made no marks.

I waited until the crowd had gone, and finally got up the nerve to talk to Nevia alone. Hesitantly I approached her. She was wiping down the tables close to the counter, and she smiled knowingly. I started to speak, but was struck by humiliation. Usually I'm the aggressor, but with Nevia I found myself tongue-tied, feeling completely stupid. Finally I stammered, "Are you closed for the evening, Nevia?" Immediately I blushed.

Nevia, who seemed to enjoy my discomfort, replied, "Well, I'm closing the Live Wire. What would you like?"

As she spoke she hopped onto a bar stool, gazed directly into my eyes and, with her legs splayed, began stroking her appendage. I realized that the rumors I'd heard about female Zedders having appendages was true. It was quite obvious that hers was fully extended and hard, ready for action. If she'd had on tighter clothes, all the universe could have seen her excitement. But right now, only I was so privileged.

I strained to see the appendage through the material. I could not speak even when she asked what I wanted. I couldn't look at her or endure my own lustful desires. What I wanted to do was collapse at her feet, lift up her robes, suck her appendage down my throat, then leap onto her lap and fuck the living starlights out of her. Instead, I turned around and rushed out, seething inside. Over my shoulder I heard her laugh.

I wandered aimlessly around the colony grounds, not knowing what to do. I was becoming unhinged with hunger and lust for Nevia. I, Bridget Linton, did not like being humiliated and made out to be a fool, but my aching desire refused to listen to my egotistical ranting. I was aggravated. How could I let myself get so out of control? The answer, of course, was Nevia's appendage—and her whips.

With human women, I was always the one in control, the aggressor. I'd never had to beg or ask for it; I'd always demanded it and got it. Easily. But this was different. This was Nevia, the Zedder woman. Lust won out over ego.

"Come in," Nevia sang out when I knocked on the door to her living space. I walked into the room and noticed her wild hair. Very few people had seen it; she usually hid it beneath a scarf. She sat topless in a chair wearing only a loose wrap-around skirt that concealed her appendage, which she gently stroked. Her position made her even more enticing and instantly caused me to avert my eyes. This was just too fucking humiliating. Her breasts were much bigger than I'd thought, and I wondered why she kept playing with herself. It was driving me crazy. I wanted to do it.

Nevia continued rubbing herself, even though she noticed my embarrassment. Her only words were, "You can take those clothes off now."

I was paralyzed, purposely being rebellious, resisting her. She repeated the directive. Angrily I started taking off my clothes.

"That's better," she said nonchalantly.

She instructed me to kneel in front of her; this time I obeyed without complaint. I could smell the appendage as I knelt; this was what all the gossip had been about. Nevia had both receptive and extended reproductive organs. I whimpered, thinking what it would be like to run my tongue up and down both her organs.

I moved my face closer to the appendage, anticipating the feel of the bulging hardness in my mouth, but Nevia grabbed my hair before I reached my target. She held my head just inches from her breasts and said, "That's one of the things you're going to have to beg me for. None of this is free."

I gulped and had trouble breathing, but at this point I would have done anything to fuck Nevia and quiet my rage.

Nevia ran her hands over my body, examining the curves and contours. She paused when I reacted, gasping when she touched my pleasure spots. Coolly she said, "It's been such a long time since a human woman has been this hot for me. I don't know what rumors you've heard about my species, but I'm sure the whips will come out tonight. My hands are tingling."

"That's just what I've been waiting for," I whispered.

Nevia told me to lie across her lap. She leaned over and pressed her lips to my mouth, pushing her tongue inside. Heat emanated from my mouth as I reciprocated her passion. At my side I could feel Nevia's breasts leaning against me, and I moaned in pleasure as she pinched my nipples. I lifted my body up to meet her fingers, indicating that I wanted it harder. She responded harder than I expected, and I cried out. Her hand moved down to my pussy.

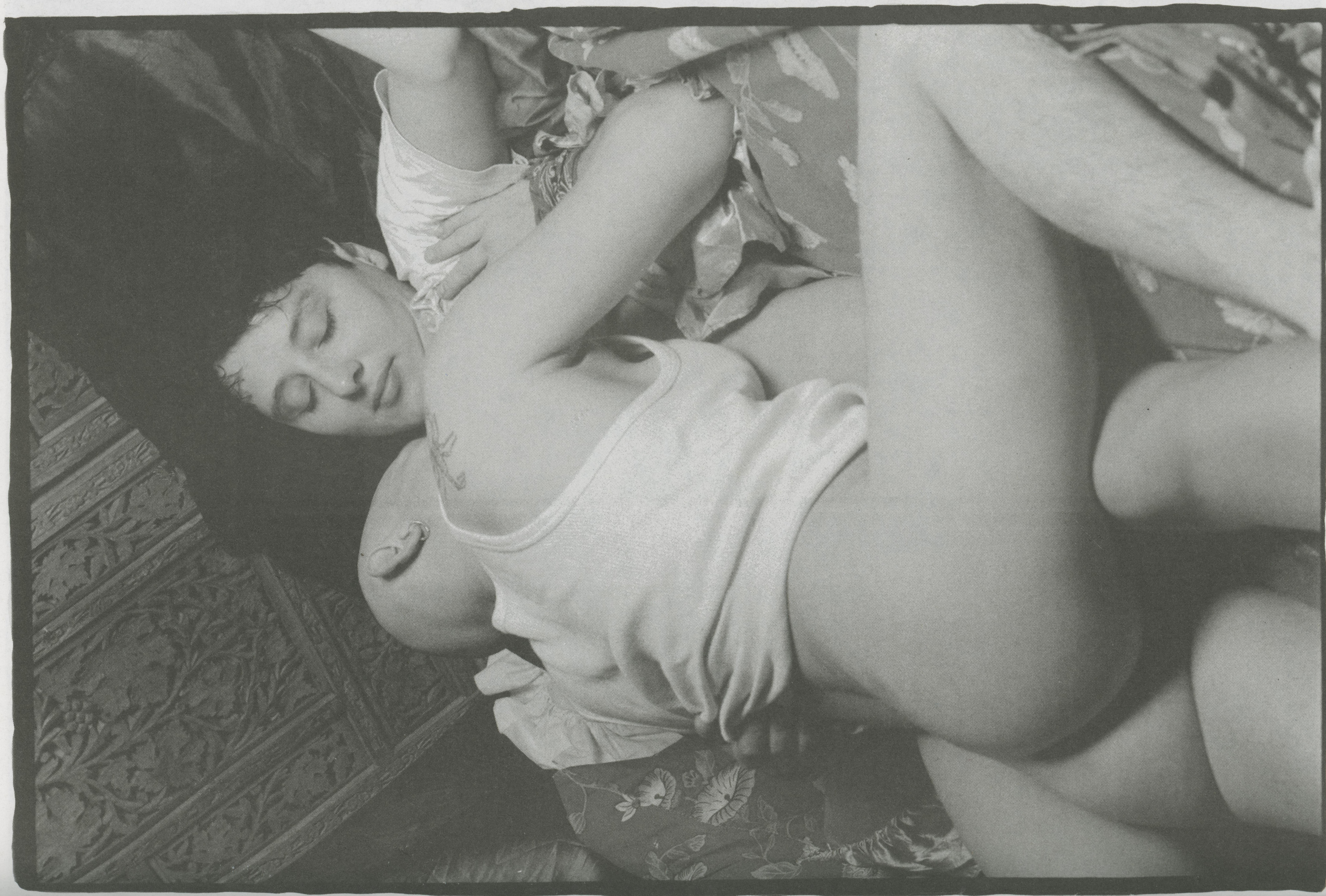
Nevia's breath quickened as she played with my clitoris, and she watched my body moving to the rhythm of her fingers. When she inserted one finger I moaned as my legs widened and tried to suck it in. She put in another finger, seemingly amazed at my ability to "suck." She murmured that she would like to feel her own appendage inside me, moving her fingers as if they were it. Then she abruptly pulled out.

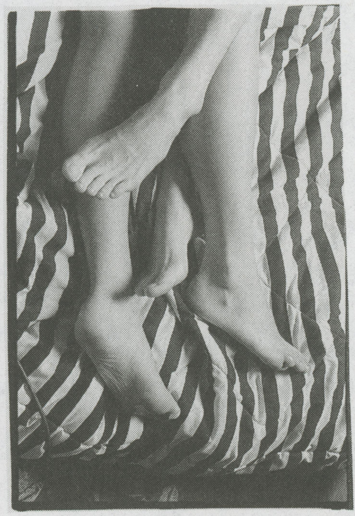
(continued on page 38)

Illustrations

art direction/manipulation: Stafford
studio photography: Liz Zivic
models: Disney and Jade

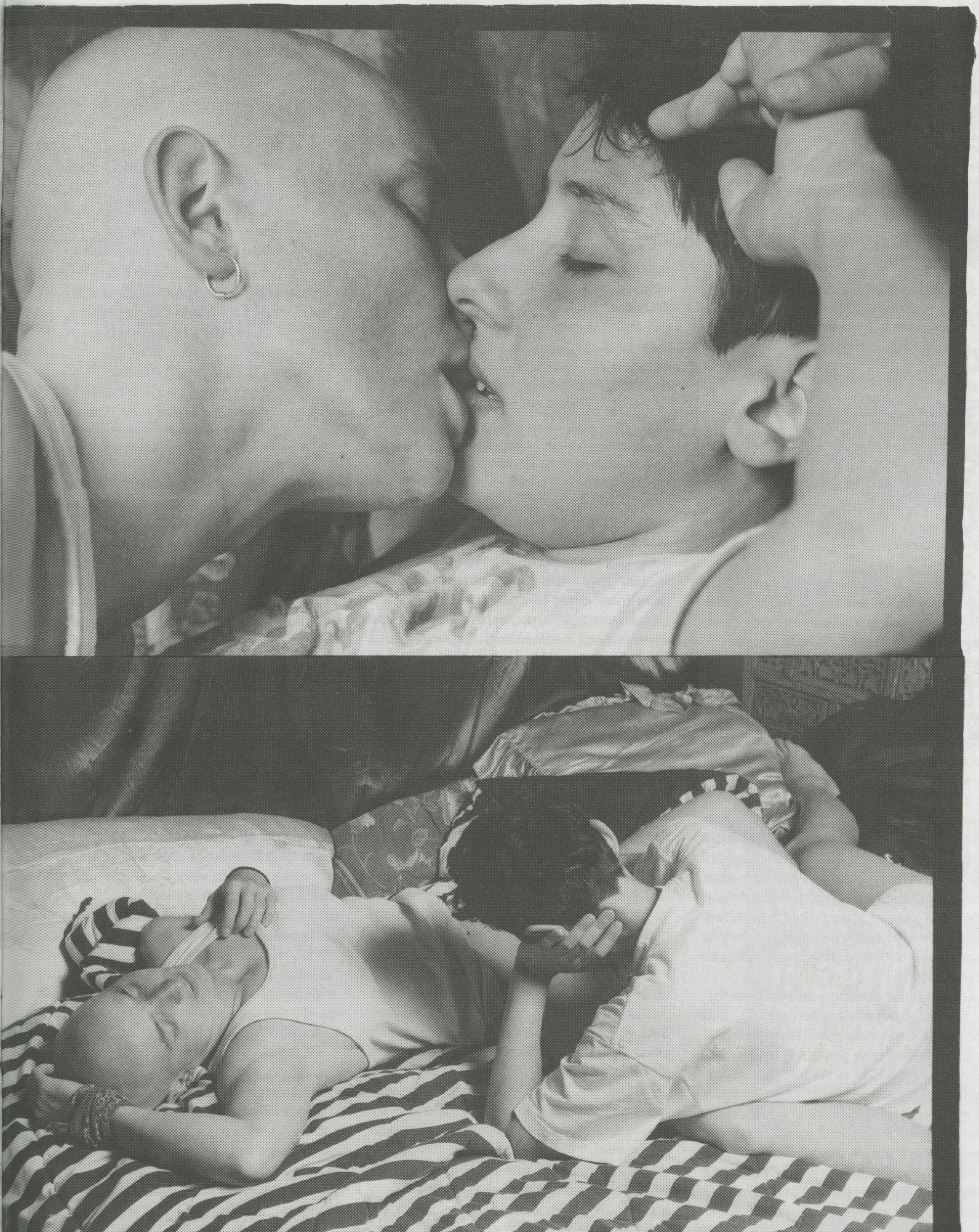
Herma & Bergit



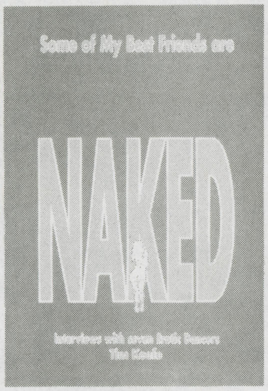


photos by

Annie Sprinkle



REVIEWS


Some of My Best Friends are
NAKED

SOME OF MY BEST FRIENDS ARE NAKED: INTERVIEWS WITH SEVEN EROTIC DANCERS

By Tim Keefe
Barbary Coast Press

Some of My Best Friends are Naked interviews women who work in those theaters whose marquees scream out "Live Nude Dancing! Naked Naughty Nasty!" I picked up the book eager for the sordid details of these outlaws' lives, but instead had my preconceived stereotypes blown.

Naked proves that one can't make generalizations about erotic dancers any more than about office workers. The only thing that all these dancers have in common is that they work in the theater by choice rather than economic necessity. The majority are well educated, creative, and have strong feminist voices. All call the theater a "safe place" where they can get in contact with one of their greatest powers—their sexuality. All feel that they hold controlling positions over the customers and that they've grown positively through their experiences in the theater.

Although the question-and-answer format becomes tiresome after awhile, and some of the interviews go on for too long—you can get to know someone pretty well after 40 pages—this is overall an educational and uplifting book from which I learned three things: there's a big difference between erotic and exotic dancers; erotic dancers aren't the victims that the media plays them up to be; and reading about sex workers just before bedtime makes for very interesting dreams.

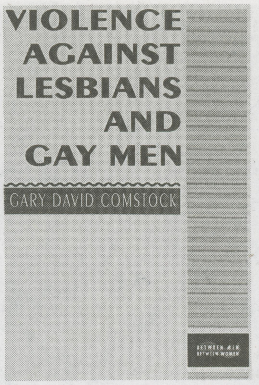
—*Susan Urbanski*

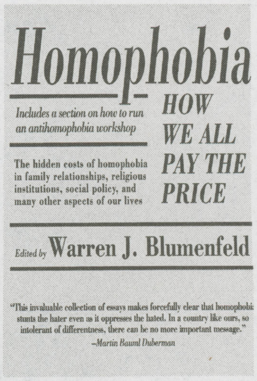
VIOLENCE AGAINST LESBIANS AND GAY MEN

By Gary David Comstock
Columbia University Press

HOMOPHOBIA: HOW WE ALL PAY THE PRICE

Edited by Warren J. Blumenfeld
Beacon Press


VIOLENCE AGAINST LESBIANS AND GAY MEN
GARY DAVID COMSTOCK


Homophobia
HOW WE ALL PAY THE PRICE
Includes a section on how to run an antihomophobia workshop
The hidden costs of homophobia in family relationships, religious institutions, social policy, and many other aspects of our lives
Edited by Warren J. Blumenfeld
"This invaluable collection of essays makes forcefully clear that homophobia stunts the hater even as it oppresses the hated. In a country like ours, so intolerant of differentness, there can be no more important message."
–Martin Bauml Duberman

A woman in Washington DC is killed outside a gay bar. A gay U.S. soldier is beaten to death by "buddies" in Japan. Two activists working to defeat the Oregon anti-gay ballot initiative die in a firebombing of their home just weeks before the November election. Though the martyrs and survivors are legion, only recently have victims of sexual orientation-targeted hate crimes burst onto the TV screen.

Homophobia and its root cause, heterosexism, has been around for years, but the fortuitous convergence of recent events—the passage of the first federal anti-hate crimes legislation including sexual orientation, and the election of a president who vows to end military discrimination against gays—has lit up radio talk show lines from coast to coast. You can't walk into any grocery store or corner bar these days without overhearing unsolicited random comments about what Queer Nation activist Ann Northrop calls the "gaze-in-the-military" issue.

Two recent books on homophobia and gay-bashing serve as resources in the battle to teach that "hate is not a family value": Gary David Comstock's *Violence Against Lesbians and Gay Men*, and Warren Blumenfeld's *Homophobia: How We All Pay the Price*.

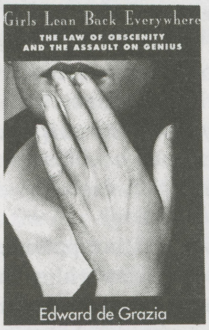
Though Comstock's book reads like the doctoral thesis it was intended to be, it's still useful for its historical perspective on gay bashing, as well as its thorough documentation and analysis of present day incidents. Comstock identifies young men as the major perpetrators of this kind of violence, and draws a comparison between the ways in which society disempowers both adolescent males and gay people, even while it sanctions violence by one against the other.

Comstock defines anti-gay/lesbian violence as "physical violence perpetrated by non-lesbian/gay people against lesbians and gay men because of their sexual orientation." Blumenfeld, however, draws a much wider, more inclusive circle, taking pains to include bisexuals, transgendered people, and those perceived as queer in any way, in his discussion of how society perceives and treats people who are different. Since *Homophobia* is an anthology, it is able to examine the subject from different points of view. Even homophobia's effects on heterosexuals is substantiated, by letting them speak in their own words about the ways in which violence against queers and a homophobic social climate has narrowed and harmed their lives.

Blumenfeld's book is an all-purpose gift, perfect for your neighbor, minister, boss, mother, or lover. It discusses how homophobia relates to other oppressions and affects all children and families. From military witchhunts to health policy discrimination, from sex-role stereotyping to exclusion of gays from organized religious communities, homophobia takes its toll in all areas of society.

My favorite part was the Appendix: "Conducting Anti-heterosexism Workshops: A Sample." Here Blumenfeld provides a quick, jam-packed guide to unlearning homophobia for people out there in the front lines teaching others how to carry on the fight.

It is impossible to review these books without acknowledging the fact that it was the women's movement that first made the connection between homophobia and societal violence; in particular, Suzanne Pharr's *Homophobia: A Weapon of Sexism* (Chardon Press 1988) must stand on any bookshelf next to these two.—*Lorraine Hutchins*


Girls Lean Back Everywhere
THE LAW OF OBSCENITY AND THE ASSAULT ON GENIUS
Edward de Grazia

GIRLS LEAN BACK EVERYWHERE: THE LAW OF OBSCENITY AND THE ASSAULT ON GENIUS

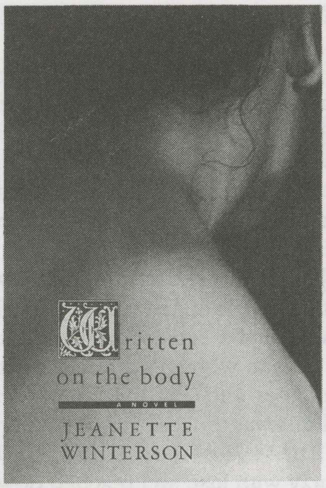
By Edward de Grazia
Random House

As an activist, I found that the moving stories in *Girls Lean Back Everywhere: The Law of Obscenity and the Assault on Genius*, strengthened my resolve to continue the struggle against censorship. Anyone who reads this book will be impressed by the heroic battles fought, the bitter controversies lived, and the extraordinary people whose lives have influenced the evolution of our cultural and legal mores over the past century.

De Grazia traces the evolution of the legal concept of freedom of expression, telling the story through the voices of those involved in the battles, including writers, artists, publishers, exhibitors, lawyers, activists, and the brilliant Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan, Jr. He portrays the effects on the artists and writers who've been involved in a never-ending series of censorship battles over freedom of expression, and traces the enormous price they and our culture had to pay for their victories.

From Comstock to Keating to Wildmon and Helms, de Grazia lets the censors present their case, while demonstrating the courage of those who fought for their absolute right to freedom of expression. Some of the voices represented include Mapplethorpe, Mailer, Miller, Ginsberg, Lawrence, Burroughs, Finley, and Woolf.

As forms of expression approach the limits of public tolerance—something art always does—freedom of expression will continue to be challenged. In *Girls Lean Back*, de Grazia portrays the cunning, power, and tenacity of the censors, reminding us that perhaps the freedoms we hold so dear today are only an interlude in the unending struggle between expression and suppression.—*Bobby Lilly*



WRITTEN ON THE BODY

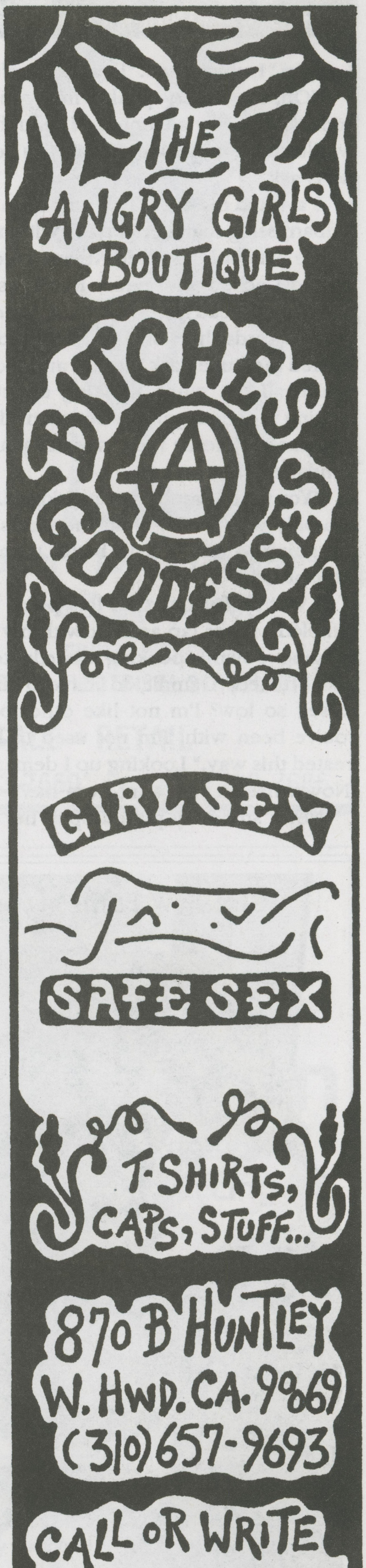
By Jeanette Winterson
Alfred A. Knopf

Jeanette Winterson, author of *Oranges Are Not The Only Fruit, The Passion*, and *Sexing The Cherry*, sucks readers into her latest novel, *Written On The Body*, with her opening sentence, "Why is the measure of love loss?", and never lets us go. This compact little ode to love and lust is jammed with passion, humor and eroticism.

The story centers around the narrator's love affair with Louise, a married woman. Mainstream reviewers, who've applauded the book, have made much to-do over the fact that Winterson never identifies the narrator's gender, but any dyke—hell, any alert human being—will immediately recognize this as a lesbian novel. Did Winterson omit gender purposely as a gimmick, or to prove a point? Literary pundits seem to think so, but my take is that the author assumes a sophisticated readership, and that the reviewers' emphasis on the "mysterious" narrator exemplifies a cultural obsession: gender is the one thing most people absolutely *must* know about a person. Well, guess no more: Louise's lover is emphatically female, and *Written on the Body* is a magnificent lesbian love story.

"Eyes closed," writes Winterson, "I began a voyage down her spine, the cobbled road of hers that brought me to a cleft and a damp valley then a deep pit to drown in. What other places are there in the world than those discovered on a lover's body?"

Not exactly one-handed reading, but surely enough to drive any reader into her lover's arms—if she can put the book down. Delicious but brief, this is a book you'll read right through, then cry out for more. What higher tribute can be given to literature—or to love?—*Marcy Sheiner*



WHIPS & APPENDAGES *(from page 32)*

"No," I whimpered. "Don't stop, please."

"Oh, so you do speak when you want something," Nevia taunted. "I thought you would suffer in silence. But all you need to do is ask."

I averted my eyes. This was even more embarrassing than her playing with herself on the barstool. I wanted Nevia to fuck me so bad I ached with need. But to ask her directly...Instead I squirmed and turned my face towards her breasts. I licked and sucked the huge dark nipples and moaned aloud, all the while thinking about that fucking appendage. In between licks I whispered, "Please fuck me with your appendage."

"You mean, Proud Human, Bridget Linton, can only whisper for what she wants? You are going to have to do better than that, Defiant One."

I was so frustrated at this point that I tumbled off her lap and sat with my head hanging down. Speaking directly to the floor I fumed, "Damnit, do I have to humble myself so low? I'm not like other beings you've been with. I'm not used to being treated this way." Looking up I demanded, "Now what do you want from me?"

Nevia smoothly pulled open her skirt, revealing her appendage and receptor and said, "I want you to beg."

I groaned as I stared at the throbbing bulbous appendage. I also noticed the glistening moisture oozing out of her receptor. Tossing my pride out the window and using the proper degree of humility, I begged Nevia to let me suck her appendage. She did.

I licked and sucked up and down the appendage. I liked the feel of it, both hard and soft at the same time. I had sucked other human women's artificially attached appendages and had thoroughly enjoyed it. But this was the real thing—and it wasn't male. The smell of the receptor was driving me crazy with lust, so I reached down and licked along the sides of the opening. I was in a frenzy of passion, moving up and down. Finally I settled on the top of the appendage and sucked it down my throat, feeling a small measure of revenge when I heard Nevia moan. So she isn't so calm, cool, and collected all the time I mused. It gave me incentive to take over. Enough of this passivity bullshit.

I took my mouth away and grabbed Nevia's hands, pulling her into the sleeping room. I ripped off her skirt and dragged her onto the bed. My hands roamed all over her body and through her soft curly hair. Thinking only of what it would feel like to have the appendage inside of me, I straddled my vagina on top of her and started fucking her wildly. Nevia pulled me close, kissing me ardently. My assertiveness seemed to arouse her so much that the whips from her wrists were beginning to inch out. Lightly she stroked my back.

Not moving off the appendage, I sat up. I wanted to see these whips that I'd heard so much about. They were dark, soft and sensuous, measuring about a foot and a half in length. Not very many beings could make them come out, or so the rumor went. I could see why they had become a legend. I grabbed Nevia's left wrist and guided her hand to my breasts, wanting to feel them stinging me there. She obliged, whipping both breasts harder and harder to the rhythm of our fucking. Finally I climaxed and collapsed on her breasts, sliding off the appendage.

While we cuddled and stroked each other, Nevia whispered, "You must allow me to climax also. The trigger is inside my receptor. It has nothing to do with the appendage."

Hungrily, I licked my way down her body. I grazed the still hard appendage and tongued my way down to the receptor, oozing hot juices.

Eagerly, I lapped them up, extending my tongue into her hot cave. Inside, I found a hard knot and firmly ran my tongue over it. When I felt Nevia's whips slapping my back, I realized I must have hit the right spot. Rhythmically I slid over her hard spot, while she whipped my back harder and harder. It seemed as though she was getting a feedback reaction to the sting of the whips and, together with my insistent tonguing, it intensified the hungry passion in her receptor. Finally she exploded.

I leaned against Nevia's neck and gently kissed her. "Doesn't that thing ever go down?" I teased, surprised that her appendage was still rigid and stiff even after she came. Grinning she said, "Not if I'm still excited, it doesn't. It can stay like that for days at a time if I have someone new in my life."

* * *

The next day I visited Live Wire and observed Nevia working behind the counter. We exchanged knowing winks, and I realized her appendage was fully extended beneath her flowing robes. I was grateful that her clothing discreetly hid the protrusion or else everyone on the colony would have known what we'd been up to. No matter—soon everyone would know about me and Nevia anyway. Δ

SHADOW LANE presents

Kiri and Alexis in

Hard Discipline

An erotic spanking drama

Kiri Kelly personally chose Alexis Payne to dominate her in this electrifying spanking video, which depicts an intense, progressively severe corporal punishment scene between two women who enjoy playing with each other on a serious level. We call this video **Hard Discipline**, because that's precisely what Kiri receives for daring to announce that she is about to leave Alexis. A variety of instruments are used to correct Kiri's attitude, including the hairbrush, paddle, razor strop, martinet and two different canes. You'll love Kiri face down on the bed in a leg spreader bar and cuffs, revealing all of her charms to the beautiful Alexis, who vows to mark her naughty pet for a month. This is a real spanking video, lubricated by a healthy dose of womanly flirtation. Kiri is touched, teased, held and held down by the devastating Alexis until she practically melts and so will you when you order **Hard Discipline** (Running time: 80 minutes) for $49.95 plus $3.00 for first class shipping to: Shadow Lane-OOB, P.O. Box 1910, Studio City, CA 91614-0910 or call us at (818) 985-9151 to order by MasterCard/Visa. Our exquisite 64 page spanking magazine, **Stand Corrected #11** is also available now for $12.95.Our recently updated, photo-illustrated spanking video catalog sent free with every order for a magazine or video.Questions? Don't hesitate to call us here at Shadow Lane!

QUEER CULTURE *(from page 11)*

between the narrator and Monique as a scary disavowal of self.

It was satisfying this year to see so many more features by women of color. Other honorable mentions; include *After the Break* by Mary Guzman, a lighthearted recreation of a multi-racial encounter group; *Mother's Hands* by Vejan Lee Smith, a disturbing and powerful video which shows one mother's hands kneading bread, scrubbing, and washing, but also beating her daughter. The abuse scenes are captured in slow motion video, which highlights the rage of the mother as well as the violence of her response. Finally, Cheryl Dunye's *The Potluck and the Passion* is a video work-in-progress, and it promises to be a funny, relevant, and poignant look at the ups and downs of an interracial lesbian relationship. Dunye makes a potluck the occasion for all kinds of exchanges between white women, between black women, and, occasionally, between white and black women. This clever, funny piece emphasizes the less obvious ways in which cultural differences play themselves out.

Indeed, *The Potluck and the Passion* sounds like one of those pulp fiction titles from *Forbidden Love*, it sounds as if it ought to tell "the story of (doubly) forbidden appetites." It is in fact quite a humorous piece and, like Dawn Suggs' video, attempts to show the absurdity as well as the tragedy of racist and homophobic misperceptions. I am tempted to go out on a limb here and claim that humor or comedy is a noticeable trend in lesbian film and video making this year.

Camp lesbian humor seems to be the flavor of the month, not just in the film festival but also on stage. I recently saw a queer troupe called Five Lesbian Brothers do a hilarious send-up of precisely this pulp history of lesbian woes in a performance piece called "Brave Smiles." "Brave Smiles" is the song that one group of love-torn dykes sings to get them through their lives filled with orphan woes, adolescent crushes, early adult addictions, loss and grieving, friends' suicides, tragic accidents, brain tumors, and bad hair days. A kind of lesbian *Sound of Music* minus (alas) Julie Andrews meets *Maedchen in Uniform*, "Brave Smiles" is a comic masterpiece that uses humor to defuse many myths about lesbians.

From the cinema to the stage, from film to video, hopefully we're beginning to laugh about the dominant narratives that have cast us in endless stories of "forbidden" and "doubly forbidden" love.

And who says lesbians lack a sense of humor? Δ

MAIL ORDER CATALOGUE AVAILABLE

Quality Leather Goods at Reasonable Prices

Safe Sex Items for Women Discreetly Available by Mail!

Leather Masters

Leather • Lace • Lingerie

B & D Equipment

EROTIC PIERCING

DEVICES FOR ELECTRICAL STIMULATION

WHOLESALE • RETAIL

969 Park, San Jose, CA 95126 408/293-7660 FAX 408/293-7685

Photo: Charles Gatewood

Feel our Passion

For Professional Body Piercing

Gauntlet Inc.

Since 1975
Jewelry for Exotic Piercings
Professional Piercing Services
Publications & Videos

Spectacular New Color Catalog Now Available!

Mail Order
1201 Old County Road, Unit 3 •Belmont CA 94002 •(415) 592-9715 or FAX your order to (415) 592-1986 •Catalog $5.00 (refundable with jewelry purchase) & signed statement of age 21+ (CA & NY residents add sales tax) Write now!

Retail & Piercing Stores (proof of age over 18 required for piercing)
8720½ Santa Monica Blvd. (enter on Huntley Dr.) •West Hollywood CA 90069 •(310) 657-6677
2377 Market Street (at Castro Street) •San Francisco CA 94114 •(415) 431-3133
144 Fifth Avenue, Second Floor (at 19th Street) •New York NY 10011 •(212) 229-0180

DOROTHY ALLISON *(from page 24)*

DA: There are. Lots of them. Always. I don't think that's changed. That's been true as long as I've been an adult lesbian. When I was 24 years old, I began to systematically hunt down other people and try to talk to them about sex, about S/M, about the whole spectrum of leather associations, about sport fucking. Mostly, I found that people were really afraid to talk, but if one person is willing to be the lightning rod to catch all the shit, then the community coalesces around that person. I've done it at least a half dozen times. I've gotten real tired of doing it, because what happens is that you become the lightning rod. It's a risky, damaging thing to do. I've seen other people do it repeatedly because the need is so great.

When Sir Jo and I and a few other women started the Lesbian Sex Mafia in New York, it was because we were desperate not just to understand but to also find other women to talk to. We wanted to talk about everything, and we felt stymied in every direction. The hardest thing we did was refuse to allow any categories. If you were interested in any "politically incorrect sex," which was the first time that phrase was used, we invited you to join. We had everything. Everything. And half of the people in the group could not stand each other because everybody had their own category that they could not tolerate. The lesbian leather separatists couldn't stand the transsexuals. The transsexuals couldn't stand the transvestites. The transvestites couldn't stand the pain freaks. The pain freaks were completely disgusted with the shit eaters, and the shit eaters were contemptuous of the fist fuckers. Every fringe of sexuality you could imagine showed up at one of our meetings, and the first thing they did was list what they couldn't stand. So the first thing we did was say "we've got four of those over here, you're going to have to talk to them." It got emotionally expensive, but I think it was the best thing we ever did. I'm real proud that we managed to make it happen.

MM: Do you think things are different now between lesbians?

DA: It's not different. This is a phenomenon that continues. People always have to define their sexuality by finding some other group that is different in how they express their sexuality, and therefore hateful. It's what heterosexuals do, it's what queers do. It's easier now simply because enough time has passed and enough people have gotten their shit kicked and fought hard, so it is no longer allowable to just automatically dismiss people. I can remember when lesbians didn't even have to explain why they didn't want transsexuals in their group. They could just say it, and you couldn't even fight them on it. Now you don't have to keep fighting the same fight over and over again. But it's still pretty nightmarish.

MM: Do you see a difference between erotica and porn?

DA: I think that porn becomes erotica when it becomes less effective.

MM: Where does class fit into your definition of pornography?

DA: This culture eroticizes the lower classes and all ethnic groups. So, most porn, to be respectable, has to be addressed to the upper class. When it becomes addressed to the middle or lower classes, then it becomes really pornographic. In other words, if it is really expensive, then it's not pornographic.

MM: Where does *On Our Backs* need to push itself pornographically, sexually?

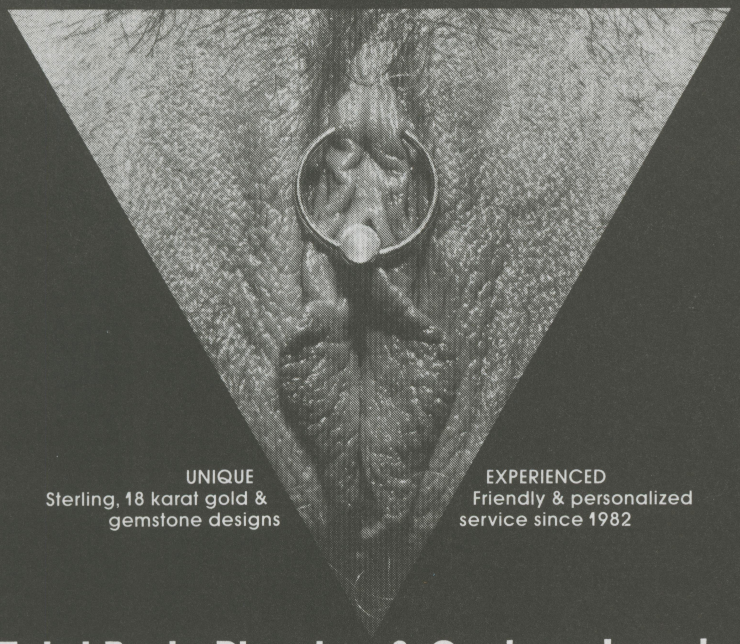
DA: I don't find *On Our Backs* pornographic. I can't use it to jerk off. Every once in a while there will be a photograph or a drawing, but there is no real transgression in *On Our Backs*, and that's what real pornographic excitement is about. For most of us, it is about transgression. There are communities in which *On Our Backs* is very transgressive—it's just that in the community in which I live, it seems very mild.

Transgression is a thing that changes all of the time. I can remember when I was young, the very idea of fist fucking was so transgressive, it was like an instant come, you didn't even have to give it detail and description, you just had to say the word for orgasming all over the place. That's no longer true. The line has moved. Now you've got to be fucking with iron gloves with a man and a woman on each hand.

Some of that you can see in the S/M community because there are fashions of play in the S/M community. One year, everybody is into elaborate bondage, the next year they're into six whips of graduated intensity, and the next year they're into electricity, and the year after that piercing, and the next year they're doing erotic things with fire. You can see the fashions move through the community. As far as I can tell, the same thing happens in the heterosexual community, but because the queer community is more experimental and more competitive about sex itself, the fashions move faster. You can even have motifs where gentler will be more transgressive. Or head trips being more transgressive than physical trips. All of this is about style. All of this is about movement in time. So long as it is allowed to move, it remains healthy. It becomes unhealthy when somebody tries to control it or stop it.

I think that was one of the things happening throughout the 70s. In New York,

RAELYN GALLINA



UNIQUE
Sterling, 18 karat gold &
gemstone designs

EXPERIENCED
Friendly & personalized
service since 1982

Total Body Piercing & Custom Jewelry
Call (415) 655-2855 For Appointment
NOW AT STORMY LEATHER EVERY SATURDAY, 12PM to 5PM
Send $2 for brochure: P.O. Box 20034, Oakland, CA 94620

when we were trying to organize LSM, and when Women against Pornography tried to redefine "lesbian," they worked really hard to get this definition of lesbian that basically made anybody who didn't fit their category not a real lesbian. If you were a butch/femme lesbian, if you were into leather, or S/M, or sport fucking, then you weren't a real lesbian. About the only real transgressive thing a lesbian was allowed to do was wear high heels and boots.

It fucked the community up for a while. People had to spend all of their energy and all of their time fighting off these assaults and clinging to fashion that should have already moved past, but because they were under assault, they had to keep them up.

MM: Do you think we've moved beyond that?

DA: Yes, I think we have. Actually, I find the community much healthier now. The saddest thing I've seen though is all of these young people who show up at various S/M events trying to be hard core leather people when they're not really into it, but because the community was under such assault, then in solidarity or in defense, or in an attempt to be cool, they tried to assume an identity that wasn't theirs. It's like all of those political lesbians in the 70s who weren't really dykes and who quickly discovered they weren't having orgasms. They were miserable.

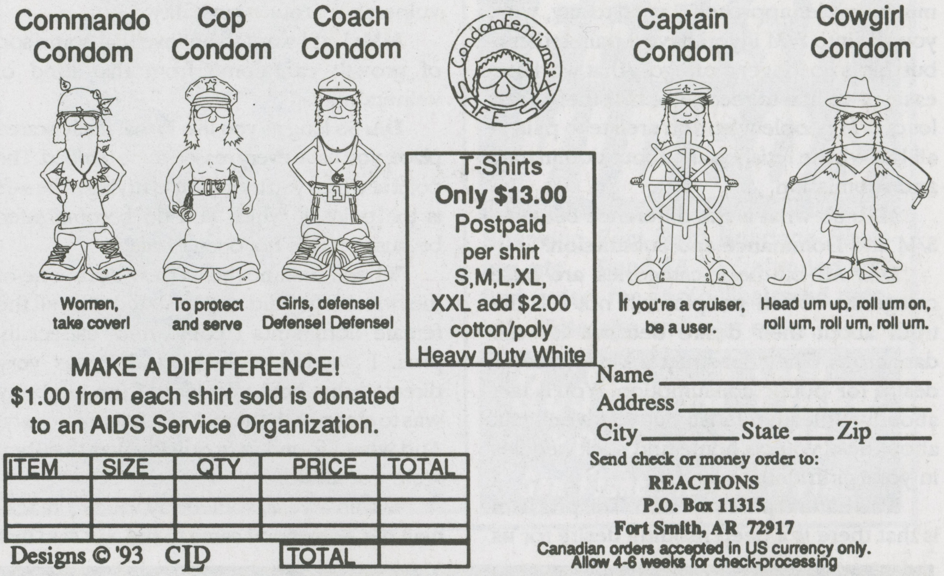
Now, we are at a point where fewer and fewer people are putting on a leather jacket just because of fashion. Things are moving a little bit past that.

MM: Why has leather, which has long been a part of S/M style, become so popular among lesbians who aren't necessarily into S/M?

DA: Leather has been fashionable as long as I have been alive. It's part of what my collection of porn is about. I don't really collect traditional porn because I find most of it hideously boring, but I collect imagery. Leather has been fashionable since Diana Reed put on a catsuit in the 50s. Even before then. It keeps going in and out of fashion because it's a basic sexual association. I'm not interested in explaining that socially, but I'm fascinated with patterns and how they occur, how they bend.

MM: Do you see a distinction between leather and S/M?

DA: Leather is a fetish. I know a great many people who have a leather fetish. Very few people in the S/M community don't have some degree of leather fetish, but there are lots of people who have an extraordinary leather fetish but no interest in S/M, and that can cause some crossed wires. There's a lot of resentment in the community because of that. Also, some people use the word leather instead of S/M in order to


Commando Condom
Women, take cover!

Cop Condom
To protect and serve

Coach Condom
Girls, defense! Defense! Defense!

T-Shirts
Only $13.00
Postpaid
per shirt
S,M,L,XL,
XXL add $2.00
cotton/poly
Heavy Duty White

Captain Condom
If you're a cruiser, be a user.

Cowgirl Condom
Head um up, roll um on, roll um, roll um, roll um.

MAKE A DIFFFERENCE!
$1.00 from each shirt sold is donated to an AIDS Service Organization.

ITEM	SIZE	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
			TOTAL	

Designs © '93 CLD

Name ____________
Address ____________
City ________ State ____ Zip ____

Send check or money order to:
REACTIONS
P.O. Box 11315
Fort Smith, AR 72917
Canadian orders accepted in US currency only.
Allow 4-6 weeks for check-processing

VIOLENCE
AGAINST S/M WOMEN

Harassment *Discrimination* *Physical Assault*

How safe are we within
the lesbian community?
As S/M women and as members
of the lesbian community
**WE NEED TO KNOW
WHAT IS HAPPENING
TO US.**

Female Trouble of Philadelphia
is sponsoring a nationwide survey
of S/M women to determine the
extent of violence against us
within the lesbian community.

To take part, contact:
FT Survey
P.O. Box 30145
Phila., PA 19103
(215)844-5733

This is your chance to be heard.
Participate!

protect themselves from the really dangerous associations of S/M. I used to have a much simpler approach. I used to say, well, you are into S/M if you have a pain fetish—but this is no longer a category that works so easily. I've had to recognize that there are a lot of S/M people who don't relate to pain at all but whose fetishes are about dominance and submission.

MM: So what is the difference between S/M and Dominance and Submission?

DA: All of these categories are false categories. Often people will not tell the truth about their desire because it's too dangerous. They construct a kind of cover desire for public consumption. You'll talk about your leather fetish but you won't talk about how you go home and stick needles in your girlfriend.

It's a natural phenomenon. The problem is that there is a deep residing desire for us to connect with other people around sexuality but there is a larger fear around being vulnerable around sexuality.

MM: I still want to believe that some sort of growth can come from that kind of vulnerability.

DA: So long as you live in that really scared place, you have every reason to be terrified. The point at which you try to give up trying to be safe is the point at which you do become safer, because you are not open to attack.

When I first moved to New York, one of the first things I did was to start dating all the female dominants I could find, especially pros. I wanted to learn and I was very directed that how you learn from anybody was to sleep with them. I did that religiously. And what I found very quickly was that they were not afraid.

Within a year, somebody tried to blackmail me. Somebody came to me and said that if I didn't give them money, they would tell my employer what I was doing. It was astonishing how that affected me. I started laughing. One, I had no money. Two, that was the thing that everybody always told me was the risk. I told her to try it. My boss was an old leftist and wouldn't have paid any attention to her, but it crystalized everything for me. It showed me where a lot of my fear was.

Later, when a lot of the feminists against pornography assaults happened with them exposing our names all over Broadway, I was called a pimp and an assaulter of children because I had published a piece about childhood sexuality. That was the worst thing I could imagine, to have other feminists accuse me of the very thing that I thought most horrific. I knew that I was not the assaulter they were accusing me of. And all of my fear just hit the wall.

That kind of fear is omnipresent until you go through it. I've been real lucky. I've been literally attacked for really basic things in my nature so I've had to look at them. If you have the right approach, you see that these are opportunities. But you have to do some real work. It's exhausting trying to come to accept yourself.

MM: Do you get turned on while you are writing?

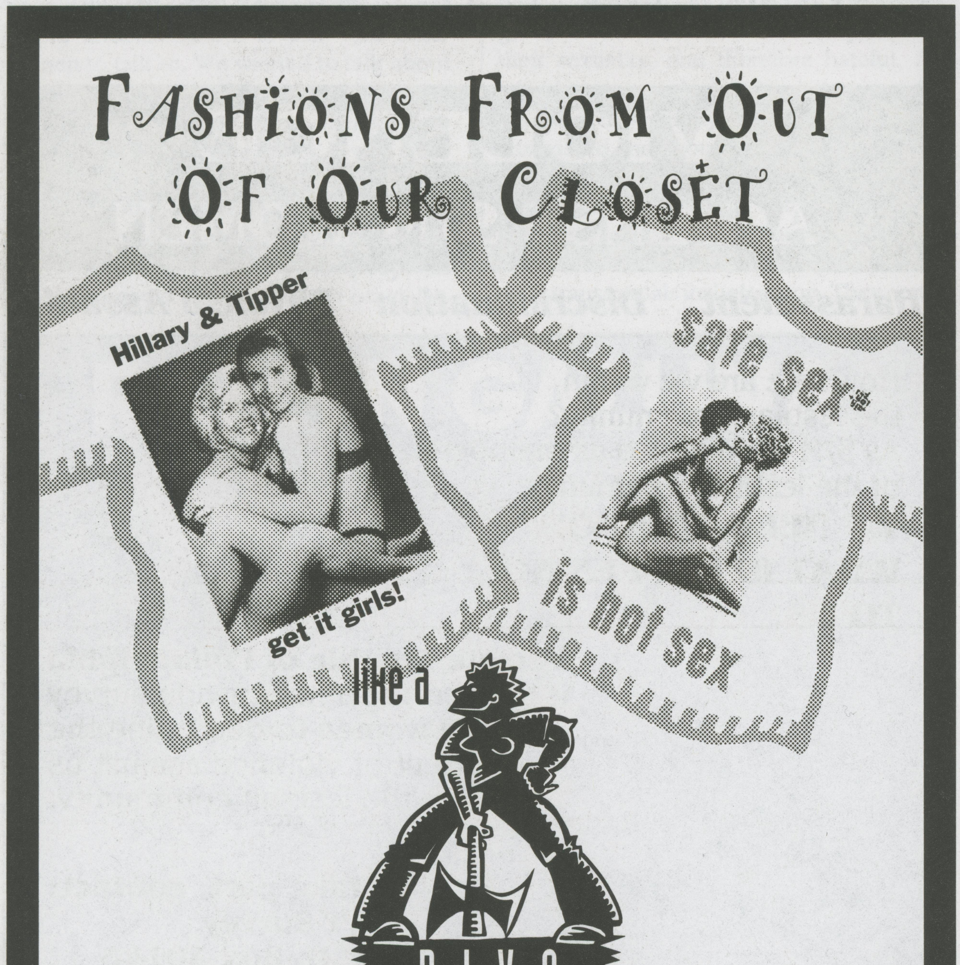
DA: It's not a direct sexual charge, but it is something related. When I am writing well, when I am really cooking, it's quite sexual. I break out in this cold sweat. It's something I tell my students. This is something you should encourage and yes there is a sexual charge. I tell them your panties will be wet if you do it right. I never found any productive way to use direct sexual practice other than to recognize that when you get really turned on when you are writing, don't stop to jerk off. Write until you finish that page.

MM: What is the difference between your writing and public speaking?

DA: Good writers don't try to control their readers. When I speak, I try to put the hard topics in their faces.

Readers have all of the same fears, terrors and prejudices. They will do with the material what they want to do with it. The most tragic thing you can do is write the best you can write and never find an audience. That's the rule, not the exception.

The reason that I write is that I want to make a world in which it's impossible for what happened to me to ever happen again, a world in which there is never going to be another Bone. So I'm going to talk about incest. People who don't want to know it won't come listen to me read, because the way that I read the novel affects how the audience feels it. And I'm good. I can bring you up against things that if you were



FASHIONS FROM OUT OF OUR CLOSET

DIVA

3411 WEST DIVERSEY
•CHICAGO, ILLINOIS•60647•ROOM 8
PHONE•312•227•2588•FAX•312•384•3904
•SEND S.A.S.E. FOR CATALOGUE

reading alone you might be able to avoid. That's the reason I do it. That's why I've worked to be good at it.

There is one other thing. Because of the things that I have written and published, you know who comes to listen to me read, don't you? The people who come to hear me are all ages and they are really hurt and they need somebody to say to them, "You know, this is not all that your life is going to be. There is a whole lot more to the world. I can stand up there and say yes, this is what happened to me. This is what I have done with it. I'm not the reincarnation of the devil and I'm not miserable. In fact, I'm a fairly happy, sexually perverse and sexually voracious individual. You can be these things too and that's important. There is too much suicide in the world and there is suicide of the soul. A lot of what I do is because I care. Because I'm 43 years old and I've worked through a lot of shit.

MM: What excites you about the lesbian community today?

DA: What fascinates me is all of the intricate capacities for variation within the community. I get really excited by all of these young people who don't know all of the old school rules, so they invent a whole new set of rules and systems.

Sometimes not knowing everything about what the community did ten years ago will allow you to do things that the community was not capable of doing. Look at ACTUP, or LABIA. These are things the old community could not have conceived of doing. They never would have taken some of the chances that people today are taking.

It's nervy when people start new things—like starting sex clubs. I mean I ran sex parties for a while and you have to be a kind of evangelist of sex to do it. It's an enormous amount of work, you don't earn any money and like any party, people tend to get pissed at you afterwards. So watching people actually begin to organize publicly, to do it more systematically—that's impressive.

I lost a lot of people when I was growing up, to drugs, to alcohol. We find ourselves caught up in these categories that are incredibly destructive and we make compromises with them because we think we have no choice. Every time the community widens and the lines move a little, more peoples' lives are saved. It comes right down to that. That's very positive. That's the reason why our community is so big. We are not dying in such numbers anymore.

I think this very repressive, very structured society we live in can not continue with real free people living in it. I believe that society will change. I do not choose to believe that we will be destroyed. Δ

FETISH VIDEOS

Spanking, Fem-Dom, Bondage, Shaving, etc... Send $5.00 (refunded with first order) for photo illustrated catalog. State age and sign order.

RedBoard Video
P.O. Box 2069 - OB
San Francisco CA 94126

FREE

BuddySystem ™ For Women
A Free Nationwide Chat Line
(212) 750-0250 (212) 750-0254

Call us. Enter the Free Membership Number 0-6-6-3-3-8- And soon you will be connected to the next woman caller. To keep men out, our operator will give you a second free pass code. This is not a 900 or 976 call. Be 18 and call now.

PROGESTONE ™

PROGESTONE™a dramatic new product which effectively relieves the symptoms of premenstrual syndrome (PMS) and most menopausal syndrome.

At last there is a non-prescription non-drug system that works for premenstrual syndrome.

PROGESTONE™ is a patented and proprietary combination of ingredients that work in total harmony with the body to fight stress, stabilize moods, and reduce PMS symptoms.

Since the PROGESTONE™PMS system contains no aspirin, ibuprophen, or other analgesic related products, it doesn't just mask or temporarily hide the symptoms of PMS like so many other treatments on the market today. Instead it helps establish a method by which the body can put itself back in order so that a more normal, comfortable cycle is achieved and those "dark days" can be eliminated.

For your nearest retailer call.
1-800-288-9232
Dixie Health Inc.

ON OUR BACKS

Lesbian Personals

Call Her Now!

1-900-288-8002

From your touch-tone phone.
99¢ per minute • 18 and older

Sapphone

ROMANCE / RELATIONSHIP

ROMANTIC IN MICHIGAN

Very young 48, 5'7", 125lbs, seeking possible long-term relationship with woman aged 50 or under. Enjoy communicating, erotic videos, lingerie, cards, dancing and music. Relocation a possibility. ✍ 929

ANARCHA-FEMINIST

(perpetually politically outraged). Escapist tendencies (comics, sci-fi, ethnic cuisine), body of a Goddess (of Willendorf) seeks same/similar/ completely different for relationship. ☎1353

JUST DO IT!

I'm a 24 yr old baby butch into hard rock, Stephen King and watching the river roll by. If you're a non-smoker, animal lover, and adventurous, let's get together and do something about it! ✍936

BUTCH BOHEMIAN WITH PIERCED TONGUE

24 yr S.W. Leo in the San Gabriel valley, loves to go to clubs, bars, movies, coffee houses, romantic walks in the park. Seeks woman 18-30 to spark the flame in my heart. Must be open-minded and love to be pampered! ☎ 1355

NEW TO THE GAY SCENE

Me: honest, caring, sensitive and shy. I like reading, the outdoors and movies. You: between the age of 23-35, attractive, warm, honest and understanding with a great sense of humor. Must love animals. I want a fun, romantic relationship. Photo required! ✍ 921

LIKE THE COUNTRY?

Western Washington 38 yrs, ranch-owning soft butch looking for that special someone for play and/or relationship. Must be clean and sober, secure, bright, stable....I am the same. ☎1357

HOT WOMEN IN UNIFORM

Are you a cop, firefighter, military gal or?? This 34 year old GWF wants to be your special friend?? No S/M or Bi's; HIV- only. Women in Southern California especially welcomed, all answered. Respond Code 3. ✍ 938

BUTCH / FEMME

WEST HOLLYWOOD DYKE

Athletic, passionate, tomboy-femme writer, 32, 5'3",120lbs. Mostly bottom, partially shaved head seeks physically and emotionally strong, intelligent, playful androgynous/ butch for fun, sex, love, laughter and relationship. Los Angeles area. ☎ 1388

INCREDIBLY RESPONSIVE FEMME BOTTOM

Androgynous/femme 40's seeking a very tall, husky butch top over 35 in pacific NW or willing to travel. ☎ 1328

SHY SW FEMME, 50

Seeks sensitive, romantic butch, 40-50. Love travel, golf and working out in a gym. I'm experienced in loving care of soft butch. Not looking for commitment, but who knows? Non-smoking, moderate drinking. ☎ 1381

TAKE ME IN HAND

Scene: Elegant femme, 40, refined, witty, opinionated, strong-willed. Ready to engage in a highly creative lesbian erotic dance. Wanted: To take the lead. Handsome, charming, gallant, clever, well groomed butch who packs with style and finesse. And can make me listen raptly. Sober, smokeless. Upstate New York. ✍ 933

GORGEOUS PETITE FEMME

Looking for a physically and mentally fit butch who knows how to treat a lady. You should be charming, intelligent, open-minded, playful, romantic, aggressive and proud to be butch. ✍ 937

CHICAGO FEMME BRAT

23 year old journalist and sex writer. Addicted to travel. Heavyset flaming redhead. Loves to be tied up, spanked, fucked and to do the same to you. No smoking, drugs or heavy drinking. ☎ 1399

FEMME FATALE TO THE RIGHT GAL

Blonde hair, green eyes, 5'10" 26 yrs young; creative mind and one hell of an imagination. Come be my butch baby. No kink to kinky. Respond now! ☎ 1398

"S/M" ACTIVITIES

FILL MY FANTASY

Stuck in Richmond, VA in politically correct community. Want one or more women to share rape fantasy....hold me down and fuck me until you've had enough (you may need help). GW seeks same; no bi's. ☎ 1043

GOLDEN SHOWER DREAMER

Shy 35 yr old Aquarian lesbian who loves golden showers. Also love all types of music, cats, dreaming, leather, lace, and well-endowed women. Would love to correspond with women who have the same interests. ☎1046

SERIOUS DOMINA/GODDESS DIANNA VESTA

Do you feel the need to serve a powerful and spiritual woman? This is my lifestyle 24 hrs a day and my life requires the assistance of a special submissive lady who appreciates her position as my slave. I am very involved in the scene and experienced in the art of true female domination. I enjoy almost all aspects of the D/S, B&D, S/M scene. The right lady will be put into extensive training until she is ready for relocation to South Florida. Only those with a true desire to learn and serve need apply with a photo, phone and SASE. ✍ 931

ON YOUR KNEES, NOW!

Daddy and his little girl searching for butch bottom to make our family complete. Novices and latent switches encouraged. Be emotionally stable, intelligent and willing to do as you are told. LA/SF/Sacramento area. ☎ 1048

MOMMIES, DADDIES WHERE ARE YOU?

This little girl needs to play. Can you dominate me? Vampires adored.

Boring stuff: I'm 29, professional, 5'8", blond, blue eyed tomboy living in SF. ☎ 1064

FEMME BOTTOM SOUGHT

Acerbic L.A. butch seeks femme submissive with a taste for cock worship, humiliation, discipline and gender play. High femininity a must; impudence a draw; switch tendencies an automatic disqualifier. Romantic monogamy sought but not essential. ☎ 1063

STILL SEEKING GODDESS

Butch slave seeks femme mistress to adore, worship and make the rules; I'm waiting to please and serve you. Disciplined, obedient and humble with a woman dominant enough to command this respect. Worthy enough to write to. ✍935

TEACHER WANTED

To show me the ropes, the ins & outs, as it were of B/F, B/D, S/M ad infinitum! Theatrical Bi wants hands on training. Anticipating lots of homework. Be 45 or younger, knowledgeable, and communicable. Knowledge is Life. ☎ 1059

BULLETIN BOARD

"INTRIGUE" CALENDAR COVERGIRL

Unbelievable! Smack between the bookshelf holding erotic fiction and another, gay anthologies, there you were gazing at me from a display case in a Milwaukee bookstore. Yesss! Congratulations, Ann.—Cudahy Caps ✍ 930

TOUGH DOVE BOOKS

...is looking for lesbian adventure stories for an anthology; stories about wild women, eccentric characters, sexual exploits, travel, sci-fi, true life experience, every day tales, exciting events, fiction and non-fiction. Enclose SASE. Previously unpublished writers encouraged. Manuscripts must be double spaced; ASCII (Dos text) file format on IBM PC compatible OK. Deadline Jan '94. Send to: Mikaya, 11101 Eastside Road, Ukiah, CA 95482.

DIANE LANE

I lost track of you in St Louis, and I want to find you!!! I'm in the same place, please get in touch with me! —"501" ☎ 1108

WILL TRAVEL / CORRESPOND

TRAVEL PARTNER WANTED

Do you like wild & wacky times in strange & far away places? Let's meet someplace warm and wet! Twenty-five year old businesswoman living offshore seeks young, witty, courageous, intelligent dykes to hang out on the beach with. ✍ 934

SOCIAL OUTCASTS

Two young lesbian misfits seek others 18-25 who feel the same. Sick of moping! Wherever you live and whatever you're into is fine. Lots of interests. ✍ 926

R U INTO.....

...leather, blue jeans, doc martens? Techno, R&B or Jazz? Hanging out in New Orleans, NYC or someplace else? Mountain biking, skiing & boating? Movies, tasty cuisine & good books? Please send a postcard response. ✍ 928

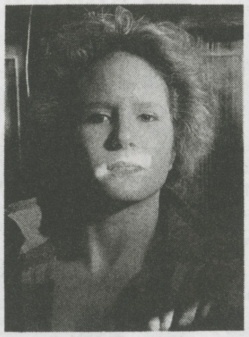
LONDON DYKE, 32

Wants to correspond with dykes worldwide, particularly the states. A sense of adventure, intelligence and crazy humour essential. No heavy politics or bi's please. Looks and vanity bullshit unimportant. Write today! ✍ 927 *(postage to England is 95¢)*

TRANSSEXUAL / BISEXUAL

INSATIABLE SEXUAL APPETITE

Versatile, passionate BiWF 25yrs, 105lbs, 5' blond blue eyes 36-24-36. Seeks Bi playmate who can travel to my North Woods ski area home. Must be petite, sensual and willing to adapt to hot times and fun. ☎1024



DESIRES SF PUNK ROCKER

Married BiHF travels to SF area for punk rock shows and more. I listen to L7, Babes, Hole, Runaways, etc. Maggie in comic "Love and Rockets" is my twin. Can we meet? ☎1015

TOO BUTCH TO BE TRUE?

Exploring masculine identity, female-to-male cross-dressing or transsexuality? Get information and support through our monthly meetings and quarterly newsletter. Please send S.A.S.E. to ✍ 924

Hey girl, don't wait another minute/day/week/year—place a FREE Ad in Sapphone now—take a chance, make it happen!

HOW TO PLACE AN AD

Placing an ad in Sapphone is FREE. To use your Sapphone only costs 99¢ a minute. You will leave a greeting then receive responses from women nationwide. Please limit your ad to 45 words, indicate which category you want to be under, and send along with your name, address and phone # or call 1-800-845-4617 and get a Sapphone talkbox today!

☐ **I WANT TO BE SEEN:** Enclosed is my picture and $15. (Include S.A.S.E. to have photo returned)

☐ **I CAN'T USE 900 SERVICE:** Enclosed is $20 to cover the mail forwarding service charge.

MAIL TO: On Our Backs Personals
526 Castro St., San Francisco CA 94114

SAPPHONE IS FOR WOMEN ONLY MESSAGES FROM MEN WILL NOT BE APPROVED

Ads including personal phone numbers and addresses WILL NOT BE APPROVED. **18 years or older only.**

RESPOND to an Ad Right Now!

☎ **Sapphone**

1-900-288-8002

From your touch-tone phone.
99¢ per minute • 18 and older

1 To Choose a Category and Browse Ads from Many Lesbians

2 To Respond to a Specific Ad

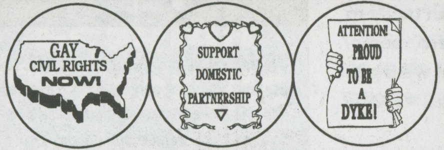
NOTE: Sapphone provides voice mail service only. We cannot accept or forward mail sent to a ☎ Talk Box extension.

✍ MAILBOX

Mail is **only** accepted for those ads accompanied by the ✍ Mailbox symbol. Write your reply and seal it in an envelope with: 1) your address at the top left corner; 2) her box number in the lower left corner, & 3) a first class stamp at the top right corner. Fold this envelope and place it in another envelope and send to:

On Our Backs Personals,
526 Castro St., San Francisco, CA 94114

GET IT GIRL!


GAY CIVIL RIGHTS NOW!
SUPPORT DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP
ATTENTION! PROUD TO BE A DYKE!

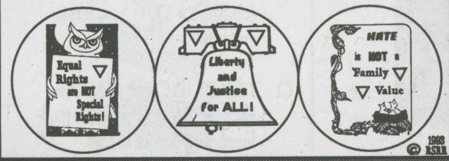
CELEBRATE YOUR PRIDE

GAY Rubber Art **STAMPS**

SPECIAL: $8.99 ea. ppd . - 2 for $13.50
Pink & Lavender Stamp Pads - $3.95, Rainbow - $5.95
(NYS residents add sales tax)

Proudly GAY Owned and Operated

Check or M.O. to:
Rubber Stamps
Running Rampant!
51 MacDougal St., Ste.205
Dept. O, NY, NY 10012


Equal Rights are NOT Special Rights!
Liberty and Justice for ALL!
HATE is NOT a Family Value
© 1993 RSRR

A NEW CONCEPT IN SEX TOY HARNESSES

THE THIGH HARNESS

Patent Rights Reserved

Q: Why a thigh-mounted dildo harness?
A: Because it works. You'll wonder why nature never thought of it…

JUST WHERE YOU WANT IT. Simply roll your hip… Or tap your foot… Makes familiar positions easy and new ones possible.

The THIGH HARNESS is handcrafted from soft black leather. Velcro straps adjust from 17" to 28" to fit most legs. Guaranteed against defects. The socket of the harness comes in two sizes:
Standard = 1 3/4" (Fits Pocket Rocket Dildo)
Extra Large = 2 1/4" *Specify size when ordering.*

THIGH HARNESS $48

THIGH HARNESS PLUS: $58
With snaps to hold a dental dam across the surface for safe sex and easy clean up. Includes 6 custom dental dams.
12" Velcro Extender Straps $5

For more Info send SASE or to Order your THIGH HARNESS send check or MO (Include $4.50 S&H. CA residents add 8.5% tax)
Send to: **Socket Science Labs,**
Dept OB0793,
2104 24th St. #187
San Francisco, CA 94114

Socket SCIENCE LABS

SOME OF THE HOTTEST TAPES FOR WOMEN

$39.95
cash, check or
money order

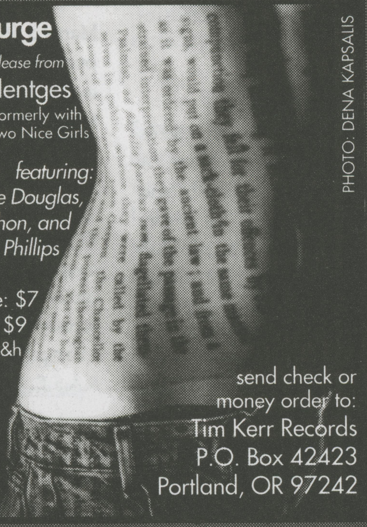
Susy's Secrets

Send $1 for brochure.
POBox 744, Trumbull,
CT 06611

Erotic One-of-a-Kind
Tapes for Women
1-800-732-7521

312.465.4300

PIERCING BY D'ARCY



tattoo urge
a 5 song release from
Meg Hentges
formerly with
Two Nice Girls

featuring:
Darcee Douglas,
Joel Duhon, and
Gretchen Phillips

Cassette: $7
CD: $9
plus $2 s&h

more
queer
fun
for
everyone

send check or
money order to:
Tim Kerr Records
P.O. Box 42423
Portland, OR 97242

ROMANTASY

PLAYTOYS & VIDEOS
For Girls & Boys. Selected with care by our female staff.

▼

Fanny Fatale teaches
"How to Strip for Your Lover"
Wed., July 14, 7:30pm.
Reservations req'd.

Romantasy–OOB
199 Moulton Street
San Francisco, CA
94123
Between Lombard and
Greenwich at Fillmore
$2 for catalog.

PUSSY TOURETTE

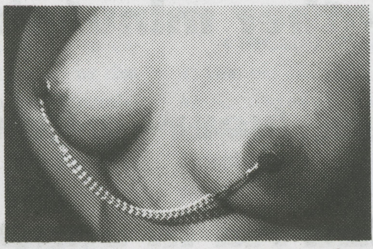
What can you say about a nice cross-dressed boy whose hit song is "Free Pussy"?

The entertainer who's going to prove once and for all that Fabulousness knows no gender.—Carol Queen, *Spectator*

"IN HI-FI"

$14.95 for CD. $9.95 for cassette. Check or MO to: Dept. OOB, 584 Castro Street, Suite 260, San Francisco, CA 94114.

TIT-ILIZER



Erotic slip-on jewelry is a turn-on for both of you. Adjustable loops slip on any size nipple – no piercing. Heightens sensitivity and arousal. A naughty surprise worn under clothes. Choose glistening gold-tone or black, $9.95. Adam & Eve, PO Box 900, Dept. BA10, Carrboro, NC 27510.

Counseling

San Francisco

LESLIE HALPERN

- Psychotherapy for Individuals and Couples.
- Expertise in working with women in the sex industry.

L.C.S.W. #LCS11929
Insurance accepted.
Call (415) 441-5470

Chicago

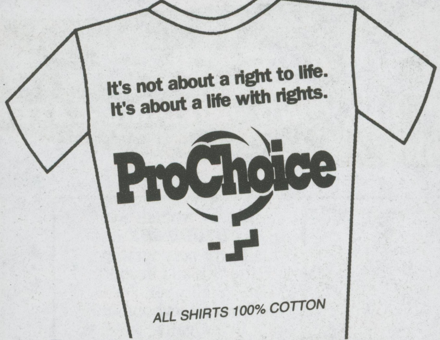
SUSAN O'DELL
A.C.S.W.
COUNSELING & PSYCHOTHERAY

1422 West Thome
Chicago, IL 60660
(312) 262-7010

GET IT NOW.

Dungeon Wear
1993 Catalog
Chain•mail Fashion

Send $2.⁰⁰ to: 7661 1/2 Melrose Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90046



It's not about a right to life.
It's about a life with rights.
ProChoice
ALL SHIRTS 100% COTTON

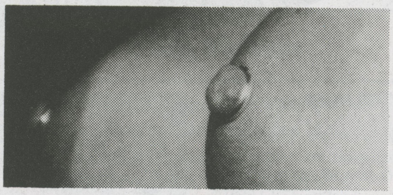
For a free catalog of this and other matters of choice, please write to:

matters of choice

P.O. Box 6546
Laguna Niguel, CA 92607-6546

The Original

SWEATER BUMPERS®
FEMININE BEAUTY RINGS



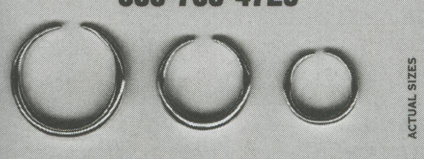
Not Available in Stores

MAIL ORDER
Mail $5.00 US/$8.00 Foreign
For Sizing Guide & Brochure to:
Sweater Bumpers, P.O.Box 1854–OOB
Los Lunas, New Mexico 87031-1854
See ad in Jan/Feb '93 issue of On Our Backs for more info.

PIERCELESS HOOPS

An alternative to the permanence of piercing.
In smooth 14K gold or sterling. Sold as trio.
(3 sizes included) **Gold $22. or Sterling $19. + S/H.**

TO ORDER BY CREDIT CARD CALL TOLL-FREE
800-788-4729



SHOCKING GRAY™
1216 E. EUCLID • SAN ANTONIO, TX 78212

PAAL PERSONAL ATTACK ALARM

PAAL Sports

Emits an ear-piercing 107dB alarm that sends attackers running.

Specify black or weatherproof yellow.
Send check or money order for your PAAL $39.95 incl. $4.50 S&H to:
Darcon Enterprises Dept. OOB 4618 Mia Circle San Jose, CA 95136
California residents add 8 1/4% sales tax

Amazing Spiritual Psychic Help

Specializing in Returning Lovers

Guaranteed Results

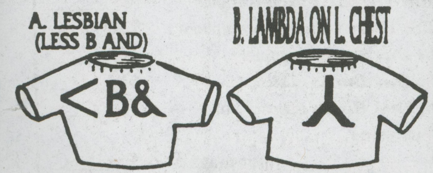
Jasmine Marcos, Egyptian Psychic, feels vibrations, reveals future, makes dreams reality, solves all problems.

If there is someone special you want in your life, or something don't delay, call now. . .

214-248-1596

KEEP 'EM GUESSING! T-SHIRTS

A. LESBIAN (LESS B AND)
B. LAMBDA ON L. CHEST



PRINTED IN A RAINBOW OF COLORS ON WHITE 100% PRE-SHRUNK COTTON ONLY $14.95 + 2.90 P&H

SEND TO:
LS INK
PO BOX 25095
LEXINGTON KY 40524

SLIPPERY WHEN WET

Bisexual. Penetration-positive. Queer.

"...new breed of sex zine, appealing to almost anyone who is curious and open...fiction ranges from hilarious..."
—*Whole Earth Review*

"You cannot be disappointed with [*Slippery When Wet*]!"
—*Factsheet Five*

Statement of legal age required.

$20/four issues, $7/one issue.................... by mail:
More! Productions / PO Box 3101-oob / Berkeley, CA 94703
by phone or fax............................... 415-824-8377

Don't sweat the petty things;
pet the sweaty things.

Blue Blood

Current issue features hot pierced tattooed women together on a beach, gothic women on an antique table, Poppy Z. Brite interview, bisexuality, Nancy A. Collins demon erotica, vampires + more

Subscribe for $20 payable to BLT, 3 Calabar Ct. Gaithersburg, MD 20877

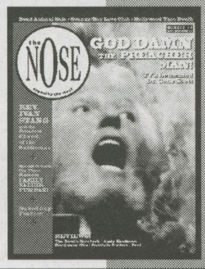
To Reserve Ad Space Call 1-800-845-4617

magazine central

1 (800) 528-1999

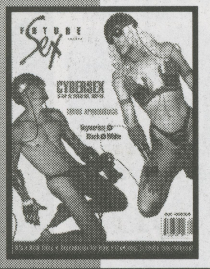
CREDIT CARD ORDERS ONLY, NO "BILL-ME-LATER"

THE NOSE magazine is the world of the weird's wire service, sniffing out humor, satire, bizarre news & investigative features: Disneyland Deaths, Murderous Postal Workers, Pedophile Priests, Adult Diaper Cult."Deliberately Bizarre!" —*USA Today*.


the NOSE
GOD DAMN THE PREACHER MAN!

Item 1 Sample $5
Item 2 6 Issues $15

Created by women and men, ***FUTURE SEX*** is intelligent pornography for the '90s and beyond. Virtual reality sex, erototronics, cyborg satire, plus investigative features, erotic fiction, and the best sex photography.


FUTURE Sex
CYBERSEX

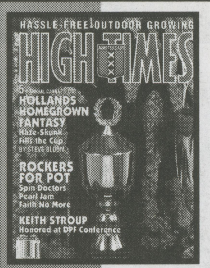
Item 4 Sample $6
Item 5 4 Issues $18

FILM THREAT, The Other Movie Magazine. "As *Spin* is an alternative to *Rolling Stone*—so is *Film Threat* to *Premiere*"—Detroit Free Press. "*Film Threat* is a HOOT!"—John Waters

FILM THREAT
SUPER EXCLUSIVE!
Ren & Stimpy
FREEZE!

Item 7 Sample $5
Item 8 6 Issues $12

HIGH TIMES is the leading voice of the American counterculture, covering alternative music, investigative reporting and cultivation techniques, while telling the truth about hemp: a good source of paper, clothing, fiber, fuel, food and medicine.


HASSLE-FREE OUTDOOR GROWING
HIGH TIMES
HOLLANDS HOMEGROWN FANTASY
ROCKERS FOR POT
Spin Doctors
Pearl Jam
Faith No More
KEITH STROUP

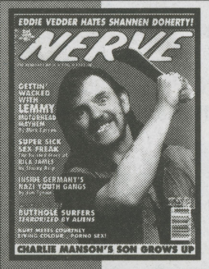
Item 10 Sample $5
Item 11 12 Issues $30

OUI. The *man's* guide to excitement brings beautiful *women* to you twelve times a year! The best investigative journalism, behind the "seens" in porno, and in-depth reporting on the market. Plus, all the girls, gags, and good things a man expects from life.

HOT & EXPLICIT XXX CLOSE-UPS!
oui
ORAL EXPO
LESBO LICKS

Item 13 Sample $5
Item 14 12 Issues $35

NERVE, the Renegade Rock'n'roll magazine. "The white trash, tabloid *cum* fanzine." *Hits*. "Fun" *Boston Globe*. "Wacky." *NY Post*. "Obviously, is not going to be another Vogue or Mademoiselle." *Newsday*.

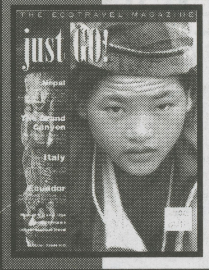

EDDIE VEDDER HATES SHANNEN DOHERTY!
NERVE
GETTIN' WACKED WITH LEMMY
SUPER SICK SEX FREAK
INSIDE GERMANY'S NAZI YOUTH GANGS
BUTTHOLE SURFERS
CHARLIE MANSON'S SON GROWS UP

Item 16 Sample $4
Item 17 10 Issues $18

OPTION is today's most wide-ranging and provocative music magazine. With artist profiles, in-depth reports and hundreds of reviews. Each issue "provides a valuable service for anyone not satisfied with the standard music press." *(Trouser Press Record Guide)*

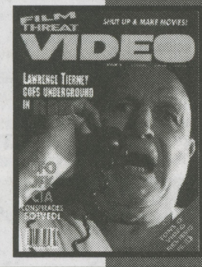
Item 19 Sample $5
Item 20 6 Issues $16

just GO! is a quarterly magazine devoted to alternative travel and unique trips for $100 a day or less. Features range from a visit to a Thailand tree house inn, a camping safari in Kenya and an environmental resort in the Caribbean.


THE ECOTRAVEL MAGAZINE
just GO!
Nepal
Grand Canyon
Italy
Ecuador

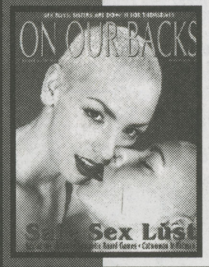
Item 22 Sample $4
Item 23 4 Issues $12

FILM THREAT VIDEO GUIDE, the source for new and unusual video. Here's a magazine that covers the rapidly growing number of films that are released direct to the home video market. Find the strangeness you crave.


FILM THREAT
SHUT UP & MAKE MOVIES!
VIDEO
LAWRENCE TIERNEY GOES UNDERGROUND

Item 25 Sample $5
Item 26 6 Issues $25

ON OUR BACKS, the most intelligent sex magazine in the world just happens to be lesbian. On-the-mark sexual politics, first-rate fiction, unique pictorials. Authentic and intelligent. *On Our Backs* will change your attitude about sex magazines.


ON OUR BACKS
Safe Sex Lust

Item 28 Sample $7
Item 29 6 Issues $35

To order, call
1 (800) 528-1999
and have your
Visa or MasterCard ready.
Or fill out the form below and
send with
a check or money order to:

magazine central
P.O. Box 2573
Boulder, CO. 80329-2573
Allow 2 to 5 weeks for delivery.
Often much less—never more.

Existing *On Our Backs* subscribers circle #30 "Renewal."

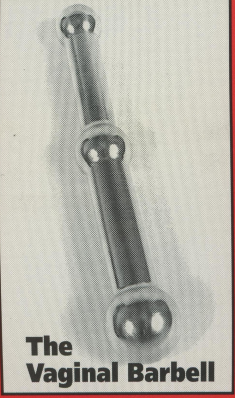
Item No.		
1	***The Nose*** (sample)	$5______
2	***The Nose*** (subscription)	$15______
4	***Future Sex*** (sample)	$6______
5	***Future Sex*** (subscription)	$18______
7	***Film Threat*** (sample)	$5______
8	***Film Threat*** (subscription)	$12______
10	***High Times*** (sample)	$5______
11	***High Times*** (subscription)	$30______
13	***Oui*** (sample)	$5______
14	***Oui*** (subscription)	$35______
16	***Nerve*** (sample)	$4______
17	***Nerve*** (subscription)	$18______
19	***Option*** (sample)	$5______
20	***Option*** (subscription)	$16______
22	***just GO!*** (sample)	$4______
23	***just GO!*** (subscription)	$12______
25	***Film Threat Video*** (sample)	$5______
26	***Film Threat Video*** (subscription)	$25______
28	***On Our Backs*** (sample)	$7______
29	***On Our Backs*** (subscription)	$35______
30	***On Our Backs*** (subscription)	$35______

I am enclosing:
for magazines $________
for mail-order handling $ *1.50**
Total Enclosed $________

Name________________________
Address______________________
____
City_________________________
State__________ZIP____________
J **0393**

Offer expires 12/31/93

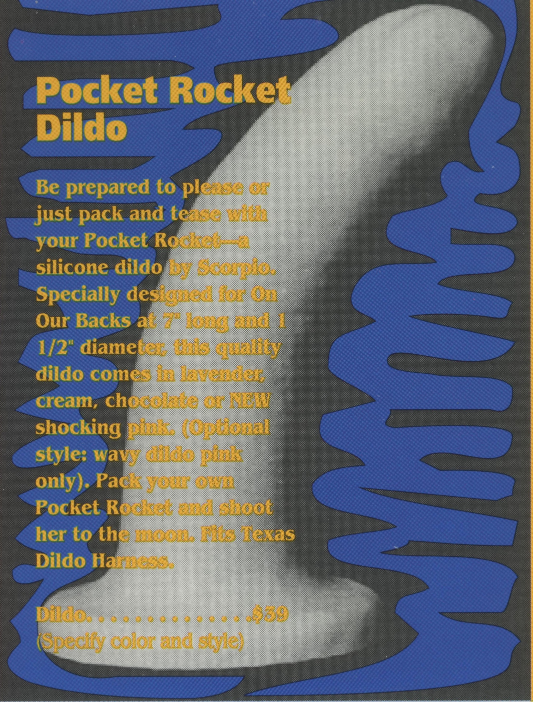
*$2.50 for 800# Visa, MasterCard handling.



The Vaginal Barbell

Exercise those vaginal muscles to increase your sexual pleasure and health—and have an orgasm while you're at it! Made from chrome plated solid brass, silky smooth and heavy. Go for the burn in style, as demonstrated in the "How to Female Ejaculate" video—add this 7" long object d'art to your sex toy treasure chest.

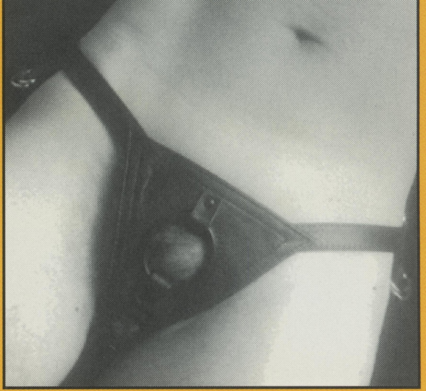
Kegelcisor. $69.95



Pocket Rocket Dildo

Be prepared to please or just pack and tease with your Pocket Rocket—a silicone dildo by Scorpio. Specially designed for On Our Backs at 7" long and 1 1/2" diameter, this quality dildo comes in lavender, cream, chocolate or NEW shocking pink. (Optional style: wavy dildo pink only). Pack your own Pocket Rocket and shoot her to the moon. Fits Texas Dildo Harness.

Dildo. $39
(Specify color and style)



Texas Dildo Harness

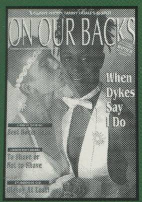
The launching pad for your Pocket Rocket, this popular dildo harness is jockstrap style, adjusts to any size and doesn't slip! Black or purple. All leather.

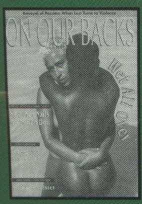
Harness. $43
(Specify Color)

Order by Phone 1.800.845.4617

celebrate sex

Or mail check or money order (include shipping: $0–$50 add $5; $51–$100 add $7; over $100 add $9. Canadian orders: add $2 additional to your order.) CA residents add 8.5% sales tax. Send to: On Our Backs Dept. MO, 526 Castro Street, San Francisco, CA 94114.





ON OUR BACKS
JITTERS

Back Issues Collector's Volume

Stock your bedside with a long-lasting supply of rare lesbian erotic material.

• The ABC's of fisting • Innovative sex toys • Gay Day Bikers • Pleasures of public sex • Leather gang bang • Tantric orgasms • Lesbians with AIDS • Bisexuals • Sexy at sixty pictorial • What butches want in bed • Dildo ettiquette • How to pierce your nipple • Guide to phone sex • Lusty pictorials, sexy fiction, entertaining and informative columns in each issue.

Collector's Volume. $75
(19 issues)

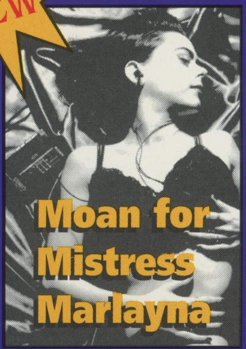
Safe Sex Kit

Eroticizing safe sex is fun! Latex love! It's no different from other forms of erotic dress up. The kit comes in a black bag and contains 10 condoms, 10 gloves, 10 finger cots, 10 dams and 5 lube pacs. Put the risks, denial and old-fashioned attitudes away and LOVE SEX. BE SAFE. USE THE KIT.

Safe Sex Kit. $19.95

NEW

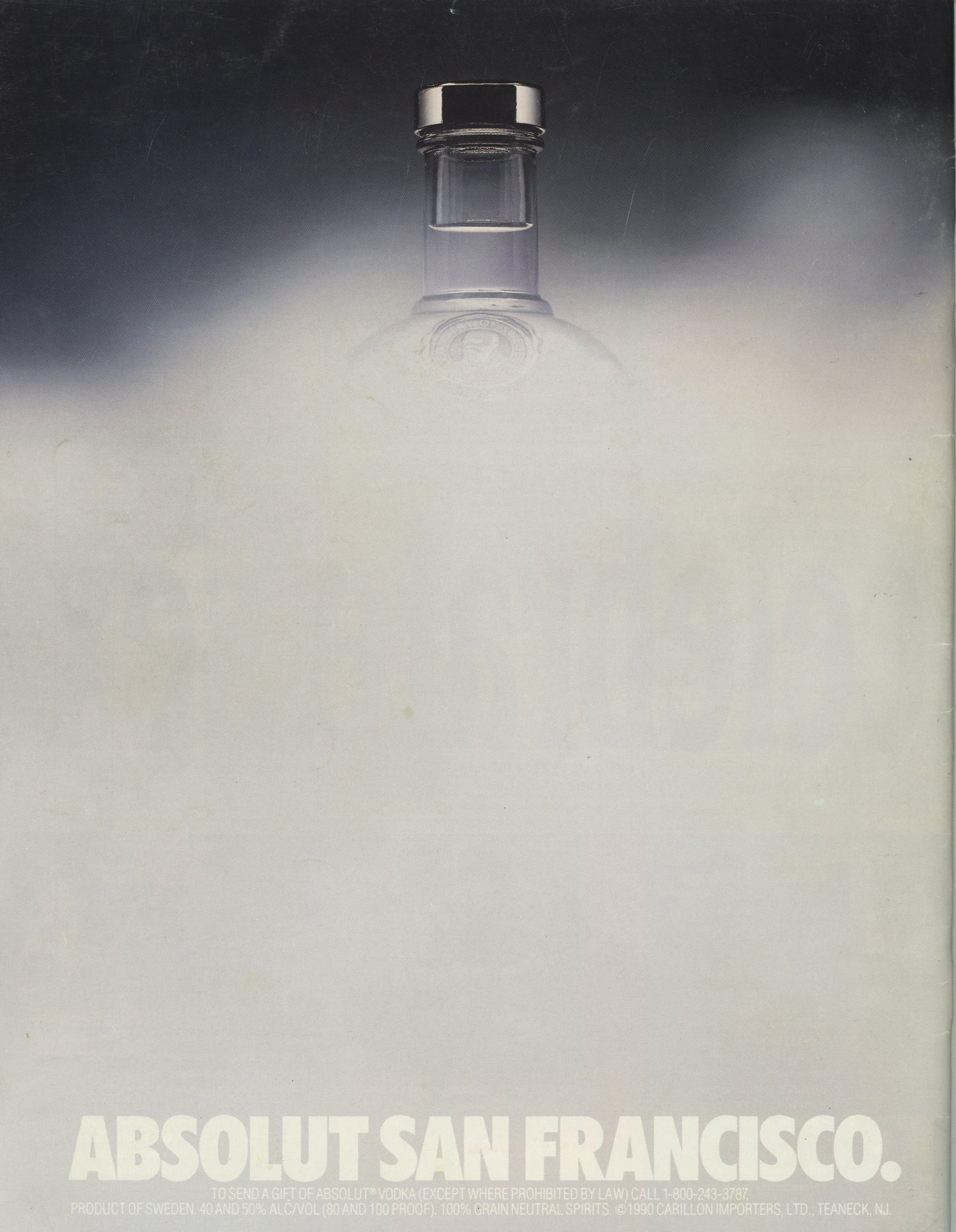
Lesbian Erotic Talk Tapes



- •Come Play With Us
- •Be My Good Bottom
- •Black Leather Dykes
- •Hot Woman For Hire
- •Let Me Watch You Do It
- •Be Dawn's First Woman
- •Lipstick & Lace Femme
- *Moan for Mistress Marlayna

Need someone to whisper in your ear? Dreading the long drive home? The women in our tapes keep you company with hot talk that goes right from your ear to your cunt. Stimulate yourself in bed, in the car, or on your morning jog.

Talk Tapes. . . . .$7.49 ea.
(Specify Titles)


ABSOLUT SAN FRANCISCO.

TO SEND A GIFT OF ABSOLUT® VODKA (EXCEPT WHERE PROHIBITED BY LAW) CALL 1-800-243-3787.
PRODUCT OF SWEDEN. 40 AND 50% ALC/VOL (80 AND 100 PROOF). 100% GRAIN NEUTRAL SPIRITS. © 1990 CARILLON IMPORTERS, LTD., TEANECK, NJ.